جوردان تايمر بومية سياسية تصدر بالأنجليزية عن للؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية ،الراي،

UNRWA denies official did not help Israeli

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — The U.N. Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) denied Saturday that an UNRWA official refused in help an Israeli citizen killed in the occupied Gaza Strip Tuesday. Yeshua Weisbrod, an Israeli gas company worker was stoned and shot dead by Palestinians when he lost his way in the Yibna refugee camp. Brigadier Ynm Tov Samia, commander ni Israeli forces in Gaza, said on Israel Radin Saturday that an UNRWA car came across the incident but ignnred what was happening. UNRWA denied the charge and said a crowd of Palesonians prevented its official from intervening. "The said official arrived on the scene well after the incident had started and immediately tried to intervene." tried to intervene. She was, however, prevented from doing so by the hostile crowd," Rolf Vanuye, the head of the UNRWA public information office in Gaza, said in a statement. Israel Radio said the head of UNRWA for the Rafah district was in the car. It said a complaint would probably be submitted to UNRWA, nace an investigation into Weisbrod's death was completed.

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Gunmen kill PLO officer in Lebanon

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and that the party of the party SIDON, Lehanon (R) - A Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) officer was killed and one was wounded in an overnight the state of the s ambush near a South Lebanon refugee camp, security sources said Saturday. They said gunmen fired at Major Abu Dargham and Captain Ahn Hussein Farhoud of the Fatch movement at 'Ain Al Hilweh camp near Sidoo, 40 kilometres south of Beirut. Maj. Abu Dargham was killed and Capt. Farhoud seriously wounded. No groop claimed responsibility for the attack, but the sources linked it to a hloody feud be-tween Fateh, led by PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, and Abu Nidal's Fatch Revolutionary Council (FRC). Five guerrillas have been killed this year in the ioter-Palestinian feud. More than 25, including Fatch and FRC commanders, were killed in 1992.

Morocco: Sahara plebiscite in October

RABAT (R) - A referendum for Saharans to decide whether Western Sahara should become independent or integrate with Morocoo could take place by the end of October, Moroccan Private television said Friday. The U.N. Security Council unanimously approved a resolution earlier this week setting the end of 1993 as the deadline for the vote. "(Moroccan Foreign Minister) Abdul Latif Filali announces that the referendum could take place by the end of October and invites U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali to visit Morocco (before then)," 2M international television said. The referendum has been repeatedly delayed because of differences over who would be eligible to vote.

Kabul releases 2 CIS prisoners

KABUL (R) — Afghaoistan

freed two of the last Soviet-era prisoners of war Saturday and a Russian diplomat said the move marked a first step to improved ties between Kahul's Islamic rulers and Moscow. "This is a great gift not only to the mothers of these prisoners but to all mothers in Russia," said Achkhmat Chekunov, Russia's deputy consul general in the northern city of Mazar-e-Sharif The men, Leonid Volku, 29, from Moldova, and Viktor Nazarhayov, 27, from Ukraine, were taken prisoner while Soviet forces occupied the country. They have been inherited by the forces of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) - nominally a joint body but still effectively under Russian control. Their release is the second since the Mujahedeeo took power from the former Soviet-installed government last April. One prisoner was freed last May. The two soldiers, bearded and dressed in jeans and military-style jackets, were flown to Kabul from northern Kunduz province.

Big powers in joint **Gulf exercise**

BAHRAIN (AP) — U.S., Russian, British and French warships have completed a joint exercise in the Gulf that included the firstever American simulated refuelling of a Russian ship, the U.S. Navy said Saturday. According to a statement issued by the U.S. Naval Forces Central Command aboard the flagship USS Lasalle, the exercise was "designed to sharpen the four navies' ability to work together in support of peace in the region."

Palestinian groups call strike

DAMASCUS (R) - An alliance of 10 hardline Palestinan groups called Saturday on Palestinians inside and outside the Israeli-occupied territories to strike on March 9 to express rejection of the Arab-Israeli peace talks. They also called for a strike on March 17 to mark the end of the third month since Israel expelled 415 Palestihians on December 17. "We call upon our people inside and outside (the occupied territories) to stage a general strike on Tuesday March 9 to mark the 64th month of the intifada against Israeli rule," the statement said. "We also call for a general strike on Wednesday March 17 to mark three months of the expulsion," it ≅dded.

FBI holds 3 more in New York Jordan unlikely to attend talks blast, finds explosives in locker washington (Agencies) - Jordan is unlikely to attend Middle East Combined agency description.

Combined agency despatches

SECURITY MEN hunting the World Trade Centre bombers say they have arrested three more men and seized explosive materials that may be linked to the

The three were arrested Friday outside a mosque in Brooklyn as anthorities turned their attention to people with ties to Mohammad Salameh, 26, the only person charged in connection with the

bombiog so far. Five people were killed and more than 1,000 injured in the Feh. 26 hlast, which crippled the giant husiness complex.
Police and the Federal Burean

of Investigation (FBI) say they expect more arrests. Colleagnes of a suspect arrested in the bombing may have

fled to the Middle East, leaving the suspect "holding the bag," a federal investigator said. The FBI was investigating whether the three people, arrested Friday for driving a

stolen car to a New York mosque, were linked to the hlast, and a judge said another man charged with striking FBI agents searching his apartment "may be involved up to his eyehalls." Federal anthorities searching a

warehouse in Jersey City, New Jersey, Friday seized bomb parts and more than 45 kilogrammes of explosives, iodicating other address in New York's Brooklyn arrested three people outside a

Ceotre in New York and pledged

all cooperation with investiga-

A government statement also

identified a suspect held in con-

nection with the Feh. 26 bombing

of the World Trade Centre as a

Palestinian holding a Jordanian

passport who left the Kingdom in

Following is the full text of the

tions into the crime.

bombings might have been plan-ned, said the federal official, who has played a prominent role in the investigation. He spoke to the Associated Press on condition of

The Jersey Journal, citiog a government source at the warebouse who spoke on condition of anonymity, reported that the storage space had been rented by

Salameh remained jailed without bail in charges of aiding and abetting the bombing. The FBI said Thursday it found bombmaking materials in an apartment linked to him.

The motive for the hlast remained a mystery.

The hlast cripped the world's second talled huilding complex and crippled parts of the Wall Street financial district. A trade

centre employee remains missing. The man charged with obstruction of justice for allegedly striking agents after they came to search his apartment, Ibrahim Al Gabrowny, plunged his hands into a urine-filled toilet to foil any testing for traces of explosives, a prosecutor said at his arraign-

Assistant U.S. attorney Henry Depippo said Gabrowny was a part of the investigation into the bombing, but he did not say Gahrowoy was a suspect.

Jordan condemns New York bombing.

AMMAN (J.T.) - Jordan Satur- "We have received with deep he has remained ever since.

bombing of the World Trade mad Salameh, the prime suspect vealed that the subject was born

in the heinous criminal and ter-

rorist outrage of detonating an

explosive device in the World

Trade Centre in New York, is a

security services have begun an

investigation which has revealed

that the accused who has no

previous criminal record in Jor-

dan had left the country legally

in 1987 on a five-year visa, where

for the United States of America

"The Jordanian authorities and

identifies suspect as native of Nablus

day condemned the Feh. 26 concern the news that a Moham-

Jordanian.

borough to get a driver's license, the attorney said.

Gabrowny is a cousin of Al Sayyid Nosair, who was convicted of a weapons charge in the 1991 assassination of radical Rabbi Meir Kahane in New York City.

In other developments, the Egyptian cleric who preached at a New Jersey mosque where Salameh and Nosair worshiped issued an unequivocal deounciation of the bombing.

Islam is opposed to the destruction of life and property of the innocent. The bombing of the World Trade Centre could not have been by a true Muslim, said his statement Friday.

Salameh worshiped at the Jersey City mosque where militant Muslim fundamentalist Sheikh Omar Abdul Rahman preached, officials have said. The hlind clerie, who was acquitted of charges io the I98I assassination of Egyptian President Anwar Sadat, has been living in selfimposed exile in the United

Investigators resumed combing the rubble for the first time in two days after 18 steel braces were put in place to shore up the underground garage where the bomb blew up, creating a crater five stories deep. The twin I10storey towers are expected to remaio closed for a month.

On Friday afternoon, the FBI

"Investigations so far have re-

1967, to a Jordanian of Palesti-

nian origin; he had oo criminal

political record in this country

continuation of the Kingdom's

clear policies against terrorism,

cooperate to the best of their

abilities to assist io the ongoing

investigations to unravel the full

truth behind this criminal act."

United States in 1987.

prior to his departure to the

"Jordanian authorities will, in

Brooklyn mosque after they stole a car from Logan airport in Boston and drove south, said James Fox, the agency's New York

"We don't have sufficient evidence at this point to say it is connected with the bombing," Mr. Fox said on the McNeil Lehrer newshour television show. At Gabrowny's arraignment, Mr. Depippo said agents found a

pistol, a permit for the pistol, 150 bullets and two stun guns in the man's apartmeot. They also found five fake Nicaraguan passports, one each for Nosair, his wife and his three children, and they found five corresponding Nicaraguan hirth certificates.

Gahrowny's lawyer, Michael Warreo, asked U.S. District Judge Richard Owen to set hail at \$10,000 arguing that nothing in the complaint warranted jail without hail.

Bnt Mr. Owen denied bail, sayiog Gahowny could "dis-appear into the sands of somewhere," and "he may be involved up to his eyehalls" in the blast. Salameh, 25, a resident of Jersey City, was arrested there Thursday after authorities traced a piece of a van's axle found in

Arab-Americans expect backlash, page 2; Sheikh preached turmoil in Egyptian hometown, page 5

Jerusalem

core issue

Arafat:

is the

Palestinians.

(Continued on page 5)

peace talks with Israel next month unless Palestinians also take part, His Majesty King Hussein said in an interview published Friday.

In the interview, to be broadcast on Sunday's edition of John McLanghlin's One on One on NBC, King Hussein noted that Jordan and the Palestinians formally constituted a joint delegation in the talks, though they conduct the actual negotiations separately.

"I certainly hope the Palestinians will attend. I don't see how we can resolve the Palestinian problem with the Palestinians absent," he said.

"You can't go with half a delegation, if only from the point of view of form," the King added. A transcript of the interview was made available to news organisations Friday.

U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher said last week he



would invite the parties to hold a ninth round of peace talks in Washington in April, Formal invitations have not yet gone out.

The talks were suspended in December when Israel expelled 415 Palestinians from the occupied territories. The Palestinians have been demanding the return of all the evictees as a condition for rejoining the negotiations.

clear he thought Israel had done enough by offering to return 101 of the exiles now and the rest by the end of this year.

Palestinians now face a tough decision on whether to return to the talks, especially since the other Arab parties — Syria, Leba-non and Jordan — all seem eager to resume.

Asked whether he thought the talks would take place in April. King Hussein said: "I hope so. I hope so."
The King, who has recently major surgery.

said he was almost back to normal physically.
"It has taken quite a hit of time

to get over the results of the surgery in terms of the fatigue and so on. My endurance was not the same as it was before I fell ill," he said. "But I have been assured that

(Continued on page 51 Jordan wants exiles repatriated before peace talks, page 3

Brotherhood denounces World Trade Centre blast, sees Israeli involvement occupied territories, Mr. Man-

By P.V. Vivekanand Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Muslim Brotherhood Saturday condemned the Feb. 26 bombing at the World Trade Centre in New York and suggested that Israeli agents could have carried out the blast with a view to distorting the international image of Islam and Mus-

Two Brotherhood depoties, addressiog a press conference mostly devoted to Israel's Dec. 17 expulsion of Palestinians to Sonth Lebanon, also assailed Washington's decision to cut contacts with the Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas) and moves by U.S. congressmen to bar people associated with Hamas from entering

Hamzeh Mansour and Ahmad Kofaween also lambasted Washington's caution advisory to Americans travelling to Jordan and demanded an apology.

The two deputies, who were among four Brotherhood deputies who recently visited the nearly 400 Palestinian exiles stranded in South Lehanon and attended a meetiog io Beirut on. the expulsions, said the Brotherhood, along with groups from several Arah and other countries, rejects any compromise solution to end the expulsion crisis.

"We demand the implementation of (U.N. Security Conncil) Resolution 799," which calls for the unconditional and immediate return of the expellees to the guilty to charges of abetting the

sour told the press conference. He said the Beirut meeting, attended by activists from Lehanon, Palestine, Iran, Egypt, Yemen, Switzerland, Britaio and several other countries, called on the Arab parties to withdraw from the Middle East peace talks with Israel regardless of the outcome of the expellee crisis.

Brotherhood deputies Hammam Saed and Abdul Rahim Akour also attended the gathering in the Lebanese capital. On the Feh. 26 bombing of the World Trade Centre, Mr. Mansour said:

'Islam does not condone violence and rejects any attack on civilian targets in countries with whom we are not in a state of

'Although we disapprove and categorically reject American policies, we strongly condemn bombings targeting innocent civi-

lians. He suggested that Israeli agents could have been behind the bombing, which killed five

people and wounded over 1,000 people Mohammad Salameh, 25, iden-

tified by American officials quoted by international news agencies as a Jordanian passport holder, was arraigned Thursday by a New York court in connection with the bombing.

Salameh, said to be a follower of a hardline Egyptian cleric based in New Jersey, pleaded not

suspect, but added: "Regardless of (Salameh's)

passport or his place of birth, we believe that the hands of Zionist agents were behind the bombing. "They now hlame it on Muslims in order of undermine Islamic -renaissance -in the Arah World and distort the interna-

Mr. Mansour said the Brother-

hood had no knowledge of the

tional image of Islam. The Brotherhood deputy also castigated the American warning to travellers to Jordan as a move

that undermines the democratisation of the Kingdom. The Jordanian. never been and will never be extremists," he said. "We are

hospitable people whose religion bars us from attacking innocent people." The American warning is interference in Jordan's internal

affairs and undermines the democratisation process under way in the Kingdom," he said, calling on Washington to "apologise for its statement, which constitutes aggression on our stability and national security.

The warning was also ironic, he said, particularly that it came a few days after U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher visited Jordan as part of a Middle East tour and praised Jordanian-

American relations. Mr. Mansour also criticised last week's U.S. decision to terminate

(Continued on page 5)

Residents crowd around the wreckage of a boat destroyed in an Israeli helicopter attack Saturday at the 'Ain Al Hilweh refugee camp in South

Israeli helicopters raid 'Ain Al Hilweh

SIDON (AP) — Israeli helicopters hlasted Palestinian guerrillas in South Lebanon Saturday in what police said was an apparent attempt to abort a seaborne guerrilla attack. Four people were reportedly wounded.

They said the raid by four Cobra gunships targetted a rub-her dinghy owned by the Popular Froot for the Liberation of Palestine General Command (PFLP-GC) in Sidoo's refugee camp of

Ain Al Hilweh. Police said the Cohras fired five "small caliber rockets" that scored direct hits on the dinghy, reducing it into a pile of gutted

He said the dinghy had been parked near a PFLP-GC office in Aio Al Hilweh for two days. The office was not targetted by the

In Israel, an army spokeswoman confirmed the attack andsaid all the helicopters returned safely to base.

Police said unmanned Israeli reconnaissance planes flew overthe camp Thursday and Friday. "The Israelis must have seen photographs of the dinghy and

assumed it was being prepared for a seaborne attack oo them," police spokesman said. Shortly after the raid, a jeep fitted with a Syrian licence plate drove into the camp and towed

out the dinghy's wreckage.

Angry PFLP-GC goerrillas, armed with assault rifles, preveoted photographers from shooting pictures of the jeep. The spokesman said two PFLP-GC guerrillas and two civilians, a

woman and a 13-year-old boy.

were wounded in the attack,

which lasted for less than two

It was Israel's first air raid on Ain Al Hilweh this year. The teeming shantytown of 60,000, is near the southern provincial capital of Sidon.

The PFLP-GC is part of the opposition within the Palestine Liberation Organisation. Ahmad Jibril runs the group from headquarters in Damascus. The raid was Israel's seventh

air attack in Lebanon in 1993. The previous six raids targetted suspected strongholds of Iranian backed guerrillas elsewhere in South Lebanon, killing one person and wounding two by police COUNT.

Earlier Saturday, Lehanon's most influential Shiite Muslim cleric called for a multi-sect armed resistance against Israel (see page 2).

MANAMA, Bahrain (AP) — Palestine Liberation Orgathe U.S. nisation (PLO) leader Yasser Arafat was quoted Saturday as saying the issue of Jerusalem was more important than the crisis over Israel's expulsion of oearly 400

Mr. Arafat also attacked Iran, which he said was supporting extremist forces in the region, and expressed support for the United Arab Emirates (UAE) in its dispute with Iran over flyspeck islands in the Gulf.

"The case of the expellees is important, but we consider the the basic issue to be that of Jerusalem," Mr. Arafat told the London-based daily Al Hayat, which also is published in Bahrain.

"It is not a matter of the expellees alone, it is a matter of the Palestinian cause as a whole," he said.

The Palestinians still have not decided whether to resume peace talks with Israel, after suspending their participation following Israel's Dec. 17 expulsion order.

Mr. Arafat recalled that the return of Arab East Jerusalem to the Palestinians was part of a peace plan sug-gested by Saudi Arahian King Fahd in 1981.

Mr. Arafat accused Iran of supporting extremist forces in the region, a possible reference to the Islamie fundamentalist Hamas faction with which he is struggling for domination in the occupied territories. Hamas is known to have links to Iran.

He expressed support for the United Arah Emirates in its dispute with Tehran over the islands of Ahu Musa and the Greater and Lesser

"Any threat to any Gulf Arab country is also a threat to Palestine," he said. Iran shared Abu Musa with

the United Arah Emirates until last year, when it claimed full sovereignty over the island in the strategic A stepped-up campaign of ex-Strait of Hormuz.

The Tunbs were occupied by Iran two decades ago, hut are also claimed by the emi-

Egypt charges dozens with attacks on tourists

ary indicted 49 suspected Muslim have been wounded. extremists Saturday in a series of attacks against foreign tourists. violence, President Hosni Mubar-Charges ranged from joining an ak cracked down and began referillegal organisation trying 10 overthrow the government.

"This indictment does not mean that the organisation has heen destroyed," said Major General Mohammad Abdullah, who signed the indictment. "We do not know how many (mem-

bers) they are."
Gen. Abdullah said some leaders were outside Egypt and were not indicted. He refused to say if one of them is Sheikh Omar Abdul Rahman, reported spiritual leader of a man arrested in last week's bombing of the World Trade Centre in New York. Sheikh Ahdul Rahmao, 54, preaches in a mosque in New

"There are many leaders out-side the country," Gen. Abdullah said. "I cannot answer the ques-tion about Abdul Rahman right

Six of the 49 defendants indicted Saturday, whose ages are 20 to 25, are at large. Some could be sentenced to death if convicted by a military court that convenes

tremist violence has left 94 people dead and 164 wounded in the past 14 months. Militants targeted foreign tourists last sommer. They have killed a British woman and two men, a Swede and a

CAIRO (Agencies) - The milit- Turk, and two dozen foreigners

In an attempt to contain the ring cases against accused extremists to military courts to ensure speedy trials. Legislation he had enacted last summer penalises with death membership in a

terrorist group.

Gen. Abdullab included 27 cases in the indictment, hased on eight attacks on tour huses and cruises. Related charges involved carrying nnauthorised weapons and explosives.

"We put them all together because the maio issue is the same. Attacking tourism and Egypt's economy, as well as attempting to overthrow the government," the general told a news conference. "All this was accompanied by a media campaign (by the extremists) inside and outside the country to spread their thoughts."

Muslim militants meanwhile, warned that their next targets might be Egyptian, Arab and

foreign businesses.
"The Islamic Group warns investors - Egyptian, Arab and foreign - that they should liquidate their investments in Egypt at the earliest opportunity," said Al Gama'a Al Islamiya (Islamic Group) in a statement

faxed to an international news organisation in Cairo. The slogan 'investment but

(Continued on page 5)

Violence continues in Somalia

MOGADISHU (AP) — Aı least three Somalis were killed and two injured in an overnight firefight with U.S. troops, witnesses said Saturday.
The deaths Friday night, if

confirmed, would be the latest casualties of the friction between Somalis and the foreign military force that came to protect donated food from looters and restore some semblance of order to the devastated Horn of Africa country. Also Saturday, military author-

ities in Paris said two French soldiers were killed in a road accident between Mogadishn and Baidoa. They were the first French troops to die in the Somaia intervention.

Earlier Friday, allied soldiers shot dead five Somalis and wounded two.

At a hearing Friday, an American soldiers suspected of using excessive force against Somalis last month told authorities that every Somali on the street posed potential threat.

American military officials

confirmed an exchange of fire in a

oeighbourhood in central Mogadishu Friday night, but said they had no information on Somali

(Continued on page 5) U.N. plans to play tough with Somali warlords, page 2

Iraqi Kurds unify guerrillas into army

the guerrillas of their disperate group. factions into a unified force to keep the Iraqi army nut of the area they control.

Fuad Ma'soum, prime minister of the self-declared Kurdish reginnal government, told Reuters car papers outside towns and the aim was in create a guerrilla army of up to 35,000 fighters with sroads. a regular command structure.

The Patrionic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) and the Kurdish Democratic Party (KDP) are contributing most of the fighters, but smaller factions will also take

Even the fundamentalist Kurdish Islamic Movement, which is nuiside the mainstream Kurdistan Front alliance, has been invited to contribute about 500 men, but bas not responded.

The deputy prime minister, the integration princess was tory, by trying to capture the finished, no Kurdish factions coveted city of Kirkuk for examwould be allowed to maintain ple, would be suicidal. private armies of militiamen.

The result would be a sharp reduction in the number of men carrying weapons in northern Iraq, down from what he said had been a total of 200,000 to 250,000 armed Peshmerga.

Government sources said unification of the factions had been completed in Sulaimaniyeh province and was forging ahead in Parallel, especially around the the other two provinces of Dobuk and Erbil.

ESKI KALAK, Iraq (R) — The wais said. "It will be bard to build Kurds of morthern Iraq are welding a proper regular army from this

ing a police force of 5-6,000 to free the Peshmerga to defend Kurdish borders.

Blue-uniformed police check direct traffic at bit city cros-

Already far fewer guns are visible in streets where a few months ago almost every man seemed to have a Kalashnikov rifle slung across his shoulder and

elips of bullets at his waist.
"We will move to licence weapons after the army has been established," Mr. Ma'soum said. "Most of those you see with guns now are actually police, but we can't provide enough uniforms."

Kurdish leaders say privately that the imbalance means that Rawsch Shawais, said that once any attempt to expand their terri-

They know that the Western planes which patrol the skies of northern Iraq every day from the Turkish base of Ingirlik are the main deterrent to any military thrust by Baghdad.

A Western source in the north said Iraqi anti-aircraft missiles remained within the allied air exclusion zone north of the 36th city of Mosul.

He said the Iraqis had not 'The main problems are eco- locked the missiles' radar guinomic — how to pay for logistic dance systems onto allied planes support, uniforms, fond, since the mid-January military weapons and wages," Mr. Sha-confrontation with the West.

U.N. to play tough with Somali warlords

U.N., preparing to assume com-mand from U.S. forces in Somalia, will take a tough line to disarm feuding warlords, a top U.N. military official said Satur-Lieutenant-General Cevik Bir of

"For those who think the U.N. force will be a walkover...I am We are quite prepared and ready to handle anybody who puts us to General James Cox told Reuters in an interview.

will not be afraid of throwing our Iraqi diplomat.

weight around. "We are confident that the (Security Council) mandate will allow us to use force" when the phased changenver occurs in

Mav, he said. Mr. Cox. chief of staff of U.N. forces in Somalia, also said that the breakaway Somaliland repubife in the north would have to allow U.N. troops to operate there. Somaliland leaders so far have rejected the presence of

foreign froops. Relief workers in Spmalia have expressed scepticism whether a proposed United Nations peacekeeping larce would be able to control the famine-stricken country riven by violent clan feuds.

Aid workers and many Somalis say the U.N. lacks the organisational ability, political will, rapport with local factions and firepower to maintain law and order.

"We shall not be passive observers in Somalia. We will enforce political programmes and, if necessary, with force, I hope we non't have to do that but we'll do it if necessary," Mr. Cax main-

In a report earlier this week. U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali proposed the U.S.-led Unified Task Force (UNITAF). which has been safeguarding rehef aid in Somalia since Decem-

MOGADISHU (R) - The to a 28,000-strong U.N. force on

Tutkey, with Major-General Thomas Montgomery of the U.S. army as his deputy and Gen. Cox afraid they are in for a surprise. of the Canadian army as chief of staff.

the test." Canadian Brigadier a former White House national security adviser, retired Admiral Jonathan Howe, the new special There should be no doubt representative to Somalia. He about our ability to use force. We takes over from Ismat Kittani, an

The Security Council is now studying Dr. Gbali's report and has yet to decide on the U.N. force's mandate. Foreign relief workers imped it would be able to play a tougher role than previous U.N. missinns around the world.

"I am confident that Chapter Seven will be applied here," Gen. Cox said. The provision of the U.N. Charter permits use of

ern Somalia, where the dominant Spmali National Movement after firmer Dictator Mohammad Siad Barre was nusted in

1991. The SNM bas vowed not to allow foreign troops on its terri-tory, which is not recognised by

any state. "Once the political intention to deplay is declared then we shall do it and we'll do it so strongly that we maintain security and

May 1. The new force, to be called the

On Friday Dr. Ghali appointed

Gen. Cox said U.N. troops would also be deployed in north-(SNM) declared independence

stability in the area," Gen. Cox

The region was largely spared from civil war anarchy that traumatised the south following Mr. Siad Barre's ouster and which killed 300,000 people.

Gen. Cox said the U.N. would

play a positive role in Somalia's reconstruction but warned "the

ber, should hand over command road is long and complicated".

Jordan Times Tel. 667171

NEW JERSEY MOSQUE: The commercial floor Al Salam Mosque, where Egyptian Sheikh building in New Jersey, which houses the third Omar Abdul Rahman preaches (AFP photo)

Fadlallah urges Lebanese coordination

most influential Shiite Muslim cleric called Saturday for a multisect armed resistance against Israel and criticised the govern-ment's policy of depending on foreign loans to reconstruct civil

war damage. There should be a nationwide Lebanese resistance against Israel because South Lebanon is not only a Sbute land. The south is mainly inhabited by Shiites but there also are Christians," Sheikh

Hussein Fadlallah told the Christian Voice of Lebanon radio. The black-turbaned Fadlallah is the reputed spiritual guide of Hizbollah which leads a guerrilla warfare against Israel's selfproclaimed "security zone" in

South Lebanon. "A government that respects itself should coordinate with the resistance," Sheikh Fadlallah told bis interviewer.

non's 1975-90 civil war but has not moved to take away the weapons of Hizbollah. Prime Minister Rafik Hariri, in

"The American Musbin Coun-

cil condemns last week's bombing

of the World Trade Centre and

commends U.S. law enforcement

agencies' diligent efforts to bring

ment of the news media to paint

the incident as an act of "Mus-

lim" terrorism. We strongly pro-

test such sinister use of the Trade

Centre Tragedy, which could cre-

ate animosity and precipitate

"True, Mohammad Salameh.

who has been arrested in connec-

tinn with the World Trade Centre

incident, happens to be an Arab

Muslim. Under American law we

should presume his innocence un-

til charges against him are proved

in the court. More important, we

med at the attempt by a seg-

the culprits to justice.

Muslim Council:

other tragedies.

The government has disarmed

most militias that fought in Leha-

BEIRUT (AP) - Lebanon's office, said that "as long as Israel office, said that "as long as Israel Military sources say at least 12 maintains its occupation of Hizbollahis were arrested in Lebanese territory, we can't ask southern villages in the past week Lebanese citizens to hand over their weapons."

Israel occupied the 1,100 square kilometre "security zone" in 1985 to absorb cross-border guerrilla infiltration attempts into

its northern settlements. The strip, frequently targetted by attacks from Hizbollah and other guerrillas, is routinely pat-rolled by 1,500 Israeli troops and 3,000 allied militiamen of the South Lebanon Army (SLA).

Mr. Hariri's government bas withdrawal of Israeli troops from South Lebanon in line with U.N. Security Council Resolution 425. Israel, however, has refused to pull out its troops before the

Despite its declared policy regarding guerrilla activity, Mr. Hariri's government has been remarks released by his press

guerrilla activity in the volatile

The following is the statement consider it highly irresponsible to and precipitate other tragedies."

selective crime suspects. We certainly do not term Irisb Republican Army members "Christian terrorists"; call the Bosnian

tragedy'a "Christian genocide" or

brand David Koresh a "Christian

bandit". We urge the media to be

the World Trade Centre issue. WASHINGTON (R) - Arab-

American groups said Friday they feared a backlash against Arabs

and Muslims in the United States

because of the arrest of a suspect

from the Middle East in the

World Trade Centre bombing.

attempt by a segment of the news

act of 'Muslim' terrorism. We

strongly protest such sinister use

of the trade centre tragedy, which

could create inter-faith animosity

media to paint the incident as an added.

issued Friday by the American selectively use religious labels on

"At the same time, the AMC is equally circumspect in bandling

after the nutbreak of a series of conflicts with the population over the use of the region as a launching theatre for attacks against Israel, to which the Jewish state responds by waves of massive bombardment Sheikh Fadiallah also criticised

Mr. Hariri government for its search for foreign loans to finance the rebuilding of the country's infrastructure, which was shattered by the civil war.

"The government includes 12 stressed at the U.S.-sponsored millionaires. So why don't they Middle East peace talks on the allow us to avoid the conditions of the World Bank, the United States and the European Community and lend the Lebanese people \$2 billion needed to reconstruct the country's infrastruc-Lebanese government snuffs out ture, Sheikh Fadlallah asked.

This government, which claims to have fallen in love with Lebanon, is expected to make a personal sacrifice for the country's benefit...the Lebanese peotough on Hizbollah guerrillas in pie would be ready to pay back areas controlled by regular such a loan," Sheikh Fadlallah added.

said the AMC, which represents

Federal agents Tbursday

arrested Mobammad Salameh

engineer last week's bombing, which killed five people and in-

Officials said Salameh may

and Meir Kahane, an American-

born Rabbi and leader of a right-

that Salameb should be presumed

innocent intil proven guilty. "It

The Washington Times head-

line un the story on Friday said.

"Muslim arrested in NYC bomb-

ing." Other newspaper headlines

selective crime suspects,"

The AMC said in a statement

five million U.S. Muslims.

jured more than 1,000.

wing Israeli party.

U.S. says Iran top sponsor of terrorism

WASHINGTON (Agencies) The State Department describes Iran as the most dangerous state in the world and cites among other things, its reaffirmation of a death sentence against Salman Rushdie.

Iran is "the world's leading state supporter of terrorism and principle backer of extremist Islamic and Palestinian groups," the State Department said in a statement Friday.

The State Department accused the Iranian intelligence service of being involved in assassinations in Europe and elsewhere and bombings in the Middle East,

Europe and Latin America. "Iran is the world's principal ponsor of extremist Islamic and Palestinian groups, providing them with funds, weapons and

training," the statement said. "Iran is currently the most dangerous state sponsor of terrorism.' it said.

After the statement was issued, Massoud Rajavi, leader of the National Council of Resistance of Iran, said the Tehran regime was the source and main centre of exporting terrorism and fun-damentalism in today's world." There is no doubt that this regime bas been directly or indirectly involved in the recent explosion in New York, just as its footprints in the crasb of Pan Am 103 over Lockerbie were clear," Mr. Rajawi said in a statement

sent to the Jordan Times. Mr. Rajavi said: "The acute economie crisis, escalating social discontent and internal feuding have forced the mullahs' regime to step up the export of fundamentalism and expand terrorism across the world, especially where it finds the ground suit-able. The regime's desperate efforts to control the situation and remain in power explain such

said a suspect or a man had been

the American-Arab Anti-

Discrimination Committee, told

dict that there will be a backlash.

We are hopeful this will not

Mr. Mokhiber said many Arab-

with Iraq.
He said Arab-American groups

met with White House and Jus-

tice Department officials to dis-

cuss the incident and had asked

the White House to issue a state-

ment calling on Americans not to

blame any group or groups for

President Bill Clinton on Fri-

day urged Americans not to

"jump to any conclusions" about

who was responsible for the

reoccur this time."

the attack.

bombing.

Albert Mokhiber, president of

arrested.

and charged him with helping to reporters. "We can almost pre-

have ties to the group that killed Americans bad been victims of Egyptian President Anwar Sadat hate crimes during the Gulf war

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Senior Turkish diplomat in Baghdad

BAGHDAD (R) - A senior Turkish diplomat has arrived in Baghdad to reopen the Turkish embassy closed since the Gulf crisis, an embassy source said Saturday. Charge D'Affairs Fadi Calistar arrived Friday but had not formally started work, the sonree said. Mr. Calislar was having discussions with Iraqi Fnreign Ministry officials before formally reopening the embassy this week. Ministry officials before formally reopening the embassy this week, the source added. They envoy told reporters Thursday before leaving Turkey that his mission did not signal a change in Ankara's policy towards Iraq. Ankara says it abides by U.N. sanctions policy towards Iraq. Ankara says it abides by U.N. sanctions policy towards Iraq to comply fully with Gulf war against Baghdad and urges Iraq to comply fully with Gulf war against terms. It says it will then help Baghdad — a major trade ceasefire terms. It says it will then help Baghdad — a major trade community. Baghdad traders say the highway to Turkey is busy with trucks ferrying food supplies 10 Iraq.

World Bank approves Lebanon loan

WASHINGTON (R) - The World Bank said Friday that it approved its first loan for Lebannn in 15 years. a \$175 million credit to help the war-ravaged country rebuild. The lnan is part of a \$2.25 billion, four-year international project planned by Lebanon covering everything from the repair of damaged houses to the reconstruction of wastewater facilities and electricity distribution grids. "Apart from restnring basic services, the project provides health and social benefits for the Lebanese people ... reducing domestic water contamination and organising the removal of sewage and sold waste," the World Bank said. Lebanon has asked Arab, European and international donors to support the plan. The response, particularly that of the Arab funds, has been encouraging," the bank said. The World Bank lnan is for 17 years and carries a variable interest rate linked to the cost of the lending organisation's cost for funds.

142 Europeans jailed in Morocco on drug charges

RABAT (R) — Morocco bas jailed a total 142 Europeans for drug offences, at least half that number after a crackdown last November, diplomatic sources said Friday. The largest groups of the Europeans, serving sentences ranging from three months to three years, are Spaniards, numbering 40, and French nationals at 39. There are 27 Dutch prisoners along with smaller numbers of Italian, British. Belgian, Portuguese and German nationals as well as Turkish residents of Germany. The majority were arrested in the northern towns of Tangier and Tetuan since November when the government launched a major campaign against hashish traffick-

Iraq denles role in alleged Zambia plot

LUSAKA (R) — The Iraqi embassy in Zambia denied Saturday that it bad anything to do with an alleged coup plot against President Frederick Chiluba. "As the government of Iraq we would like to state clearly that we have nothing to do with it." a spokesman for the Iraqi mission said. Mr. Chiluba declared a state of emergency Thursday night and police arrested at least 15 opposition figures Friday. Foreign Minister Vernon Mwaanga said members of the main opposition United National Independence Party (UNIP) questioned by police "indicated the funding for the operation is being obtained from Iraq and Iran." The Iranian embassy has also denied any covert activities in Zambia and UNIP President Kebby Musokotwane told a news conference UNIP received no assistance from Iran or Iraq.

Kuwaitis offer cash, property to IRS envoy

KUWAIT (AP) - The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) does not leap to mind when listing lovable American institutions, but bundreds of Kuwaitis contacted a local representative this week offering cash, property or assistance. It all started when the IRS placed an advertisement in local papers, offering courses to American citizens wanting to help others fill out their annual income tax forms. About 400 Kuwaitis only read the words 'American citizens needing assistance" and immediately contacted Margaret Combs, whose phone number was in the ad, "They thought Americans were in trouble and wanted to do anything to help," said Ms. Combs. Most callers offered cash, property or whatever belp was needed, saying that the United States had belped them end the seven-month Iraqi occupation in February 1991 and they felt it was their duty to respond Ms. Combs said. No specifie sums were mentioned, but the phone rang about 60 to 70 times a day. One call came at 1:30 a.m. "I just kept explaining that the only help needed was to fill out the paperwork," said Ms.

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Iraqi newspaper taunts Yeltsin

BAGHDAD (R) - An Iraqi newspaper called Russian President Boris Yeltsin "stupid" Saturday, saying he had nothing to offer foreign masters except Hitler's skull. "U.S. advice has not improved bis (Yeltsin's) abilities. He still remains stupid newspaper Babel, owned by Saddam Hussein's eldest son Uday, said in a front-page commentary. The article, signed by President Saddam's press officer Abdul Jabbar Mohsen, said Mr. Yeltsin was ignorant and knew nothing about the world around him. "He is ignment from bead to toe and has emptied Russia's coffers and (now) has nothing left to give to bis masters but Hitler's skull," Mr. Mohsen said. Iraq's hopes of normalising relations with Moscow soon were frustrated last munth when a visit by a senior Russian diplomat to Baghdad did not result in upgraded ties.

Court orders man to quit moonlighting

TEL AVIV (AP) - Rabbis saved a marriage by instructing the husband to quit moonlighting get a loan to save his sex life Friday the Israeli Itim news agency reported. A woman in her 20s sued for divorce because she said her husband could no longer function sexually, the news agency said. "He delivers newspapers before dawn, and then he's an accountant," Itim quoted the unnamed woman as complaining to the court. Israel's laws of marriage and divorce are governed by Jewish religious law and administered by Orthodox rabbis. The husband told the court he had taken on the paper delivery to pay off debts he had accumulated, Itim said. The paper delivery to pay on the man's bank manager recommending an easy-term loan, Itim said. It ordered the man to stop delivering newspapers. Itim said, and to fulfill his wife's needs --- and all that

U.S. repudiates envoy's remarks on aid to Israel

"The American Muslim Coun- is highly irresponsible to selec-cil (AMC) is alarmed at the tively use religious labels on

Arab-Americans fear backlash from blast arrest

ited States Friday repudiated remarks by its ambassador to Israel wbn suggested Washington may bave to cut its \$3 billion annual aid to the Jewish state.

Ambassador William Harrop told Tel Aviv businessmen Thursday that it was not prudent for Israel, the biggest recipient of U.S. aid, to rely on the United States for seven to eight per cent of its national budget.

"The commitment of the American government and people to Israel is not in question, now or in the future. But it may prove difficult to maintain our economic aid at its current bigh level," Mr. Harrop said.

State Department spokesman

senting the policies of the Clinton administration.

"Ambassador Harrop was not speaking on instructions. His remarks on possible aid cuts may perbaps be a reflection of his own personal views, but I do want to make clear he was not speaking on instructions," said Mr. Boucher. The United States gives Israel

\$1.8 billion in military assistance and \$1.2 billion in economic aid every year, more than any other single country. In addition, it recently agreed to give Israel loan guarantees worth \$10 billion spread over a five-year-period. Mr. Boucher said President

Bill Clinton's budget for fiscal 1994 kept aid to Israel and Egypt Richard Boucher said Mr. Har-rop may have been expressing bis years. Under the Camp David own ppinion but was not repre- accords of 1978 and the Israeli-

Egyptian peace treaty the follow-ing year, aid to Egypt is linked to assistance to Israel.

Asked if Secretary of State Warren Christopher had full confidence in Mr. Harrnp, Mr. Boucher replied: "It's not a question I asked him... I don't want to say anything

that implies one way or the other his future. I think that's not for me to say." The granting of loan guaran-tees to Israel last year after a

major political battle was sup-posed to be linked to an Israeli programme of economic liberalisation and restructuring. But Mr. Harrop said the pace of economic reform bad been disappointing.

He cited the warnings of U.S.

senators who said during visits to Israel last month that U.S. fore-

ign aid was likely to be cut overall because of domestie demands, a drive to reduce the U.S. deficit.

and changes in the world. Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said Friday Israel's first priority should be to extract itself from its reliance on U.S. financial assist-"Israel's number one problem

today is not being able to sustain her security level without the American taxpayer's money, Mr. Rabin told a group of Tel Aviv industrialists. Mr. Rabin echoed Mr. Har-

rop's comments, saying Israel's bureaucracy was "not qualitative and not outstanding."
"One way for the govern-

ment to extract itself from business is by selling its interests in the banks," Mr. Rabin said.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION Tel: 773111-19

PROGRAMME TWO 17:30 Reves d'enfants 17:40 Les Clés de Fort Boyard 19:30 News in Hebrey News in Arabic
Who's the Boss . Documentar News in English 22:20 . __Bestseller: "An American Love"

PRAYER TIMES

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CHURCHES St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swellich, Assemblies of God Church, Tel.

St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590. Church of the Annunciation 637440, De la Salle Church Tel. 661757 Terrasanta Church Tel: 622366 Church of the Australian Tel. 82354).

Anglican Church Tel. 630851, Tel. an Cutholic Church Tel. neulan Orthodox Church Tel. 775261. St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751.
Annual International Church Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-

Day Saints Tel. 823824, 654932 Church of Nazarene Tel.675691.

WEATHER Bulletin supplied by the Department of

A cold from accompanying a de pression centred over Turkey will affect Jordan Sunday. Therefore, it will be cold, cloudy and rainy at times. Winds will be southwesterly fresh, gusting at times. In Aqaba, it will be partly cloudy and there will be a chance for scattered showers of rain-while winds will be southerly fresh and

seas rough.		
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Jordan Valley		

Yesterday's high temperatures; Amman 16, Aqaba 23, Humidity readings; Amman 30 per cent. Aqaba 26 per

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AMMAN:	
Dr. Rasszi Mizzawi 894788	
Dr. Salman Daboubi 776751	
Dr. Mohammad Al Nahawi 693925	
Dr. Khaled Mu'addi 743500	
Fires pharmacy	
Ferdows pharmacy 778336	
Al Asema pharmacy 637055	
Nairoukh pharmacy 623672	
Al Salam pharmacy	
Yacoub pharmacy 644945	
Shincisani pharmacy 637660	
Najio pharmacy847632	
IRBID:	
Dr. Mohammad Al Ta'ami 273711	
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EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department 661111
Civil Defence Immediate
Rescue 630341
Civil Defence Emergency
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Fire Brigade 891228
Blood Bank 775121
Highway Police 843402
Traffic Police 896390
Pablic Security Department
Hotel Complaints
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Complaints 297467
water and sowerage Complaints
Complaints 787) 11
Telephone Information
(directory assistance) 171
Overseas Calls 1310230
Central Anaman Telephone
Commercial Company
Remairs 623101
Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101
Repairs 623101 Abdati Telephone Repairs 661101 Jordan Television 773111
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Jordan Electricity Authority ... 815615 Electric Power

RI Flight Information 08-53200 Queen Alia Ind. Airport..... 08-53200 HOSPITALS

Hussein Medical Centre 813813/32 669131 845845 University Hospital Al-Mussher Hospital ... The Islamic, Abdali AJ-AMI, Abdali 664164/6 Italian, Al-Muhajreen Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafich Army, Marka ZAROA: Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)983323 Zarqa National Hospital ... (09)900560 Ibu Suna Hospital (09)986732 Al Hikasa Modern Hospital (09) 99090

Princess Bassna Hospital . Greek Catholic Hospital

. (02)275555 (02)272275

636381 Iba Al Nafees Hospital (02)247100 ncess Haya Hospital (03)314111 FOR THE TRAVELLER

AIRPORT This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Oncen Alia International Airport Tel. (08153200-5, where it should always be verified. Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights

QUEEN ALIA

INTERNATIONAL

(Terminal 1)

10:15 . New York, Appa

... Madrid, Geseva (RJ) Frankfurt (RJ) Rome (RJ) Athens, Vienna (RJ) Other Flights (Terminal 2) Cairo (GF Moscow (SU) Larnaca (CY)

DEPARTURES Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

18:00 19:25

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:15	Frankfort
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- 20	··············· Lunes, Casabianca (
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45	Damascus
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C1:43	····· Fatuaca (CA)
MARKET	PRICES
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Other Flights (Terminal 2)

Beirul, Rome (AZ)

Jordan to observe women's day with various functions

observe International Women's Day next week with women associations organising a number of functions to mark the occasion. Among the main events will be the opening of a branch of the Business and Professional Women's Club (BPWC) in Zarqa by Her Majesty Queen Noor.

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Club sources told the Jordan Times that the office, to open March 13, will be devoted to legal matters partaining to women's

Before the formal opening, the BPWC will hold a ceremony at the Zarqa Chamber of Commerce to honour a group of selected women employed in Jordanian factories. Certificates of merit and gifts will be distributed to at least 15 women, said

On March 9, the Young

Women's Christian Associatioo (YWCA) will hold a seminar to discuss women's issues in Jordan; and on March 7 the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundatioo in Amman is organising a seminar to discuss discrimination against women in Jordanian laws. The main speaker will be attorney Fatimah Kosad.

On the eve of International Women's Day, the U.N. Secretary Geoeral Boutros Ghali said: "International Women's Day is a time to celehrate what women have achieved in their struggle for equal rights, social progress and peace. It is a time to speak honestly about the continuing oppression of women in many. areas of the world and in many aspects of daily life. And it is a time to speak of what must be done to advance the cause of



A group of Chechen pilgrims now in Jordan on their way to Saudi Arabia on a 3,600-kilometre walking trip from their country

Chechen pilgrims arrive on walking trip from Grosnia Daghistan, Georgia, Russia and

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A group of 11 pil-grüns has arrived in Jordan, walking their way from the Chechen republic in the former Soviet Union to perform this year's pil-grimage to Mecca and Medina in Saudi Arabia.

The group, all of them men between 18 and 47 years, has already walked 2,400 kilometres and expects to complete the 3,600 kilometre journey by the time the Haj begins io mid-Inne, said Adnan Younis Bassadok, a Circassian and head of a committee

More than 95 per cent of the 1.5 million-strong population of the tiny republic in the northern Caucasus are Muslim, Mr. Bassadok said.

In Jordan, the group hopes to meet His Majesty King Hussein to convey "the greetings of the people of Chechen," he said. They would like to thank His Majesty for the assistance he extended to our people."

Jordan has already sent a plane-load of medical supplies and food to the Chechen republic and is planning to send another plane of relief aid soon, be said.

"The people of the Chechen republic also like to congratulate His Majesty for his successful recovery after surgery in the U.S.," he said, adding the Chechen people "were following very closely the health conditions of the King, who underwent a major operation in a U.S. clinic

in 'August.

The pilgrims started their overland trip from Grosnia on Jan. 2. 1993, and passed through Kabania-Balkaria and crossed the Black Sea to Turkey and proceeded to Jordan through Syria. Their route would bave been

shortened if they had passed through Georgia, but relations between the Chechens and Georgians are strained and therefore passage through Georgian territory was not possible, Mr. Bassadok told the Jordan Times. The group did not have any

major problems during the trip it itom dramatica climate conditions of the terrain they covered, he said. According to Mr. Bassadok,

Jordan and the Chechen republic enjoy "excellent relations" and he noted that a sizeable community of ethnic Chechens lives in The foreign minister of the new

republie, Sbamseddine Alaeddein Yousef, was born in Jordan. So was his predecessor, Shamel

During their stay in Jordan, the pilgrims will visit Islamic holy sbrines and mosques and also meet with officials of the Ministry of Awgaf and Islamic Affairs.

"The group has already had a good taste of Jordanian hospitality," said Mr. Bassadok, adding that Jordanians throughout the pilgrims' passage from Ramtha to Zarqa hosted them and offered them food and drinks.

"There was oot a siogle inst-'August. ance when the group had to enter a restaurant," he said.

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

King receives congratulatory cable from Lebanon

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty Kiog Hussein Saturday received a cable from Lehanese Prime Minister Rafiq Al Hariri congratu-lating him on the start of the Holy Month of Ramadan. Mr. Hariri wished King Hussein continued good health and happiness and the Jordanian people further progress and prosperity.

Prince Mohammad condoles Khaled Al Karaki

AMMAN (Petra) - His Royal Highness Prince Mohammad, the personal representative of His Majesty King Hussein, Saturday visited Royal Court Chief Khaled Al Karaki to condole him over the death of his hrother Colonel Suleiman Al Karaki. The deceased was killed in an accident last week.

Kabariti appointed acting Tourism Minister

AMMAN (Petra) - A Royal Decree was issued Saturday appointing Labour Minister Abdul Karim Al Kabariti as acting Minister of Tourism and Antiquities while Minister Yanal Hikmat

is still abroad. House approves temporary law for handicapped

AMMAN (Petra) — The Upper of Parliament Education Committee Saturday approved the 1989 Temporary Law No. 34 on the Welfare of the Handicapped. The House introduced minor amendments to the temporary law.

Antiquities office collects 3 times more last year

AMMAN (Petra) - The Antiquities Department has collected AMMAN (Petra) — The Antiquities Department has collected ID150,650 in fees from Jordanian, Arab and foreign tourists who visited archaeological sites in Jordan in 1992. Department Director General Safwan Tell said the amount equals three times the department's revenues in 1991.

Bataineh announces administrative changes

AMMAN (Petra) — Health Abdullah Hamdan will be direc Minister Aref Bataineh Saturday tor of Planning, Suleiman Jaafan announced comprehensive administrative changes in the ministry and its affiliated departments. The appointments covered

senior officials and doctors now holding key positions in the health ministry itself and its various departments. According to the announcement, pharmacist Nayef Hamar-

will be director of Environmental Health, Saad Kharabsheh will be director of the Disease Preventioo Department, Mamonn Maabreb will be director of General Public Health, Yahya Khreis will be director of Laboratories, pharmacist Maisa Sakit will be director of the Pharmacy Department, Usama Badran will be director of the Motherhood neh will become head of the and Child Department, pharma-Purchases Department, engineer cist Haifaa Al Asali will be direc-Omar Abu Qoura will become tor of the Medical and Quality director of General Services and Control Department, and Tawfig Buildings, Salim Simadi will be Lohani will be director of Health

tor of Planning, Suleiman Jaafari

director of Medical Education, Civil service office to start filling vacancies in April

Service Commission (CSC) which is responsible for filling vacant posts in government offices will begin this year's task by April, 1993, according to an announcement Saturday by CSC Director Abdullah Ulayan.

In a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Mr. Ulayan said the CSC plans to fill 4,790 jobs of which 2,870 will go to university graduates. The rest, he said will be filled hy community college and high school graduates.

Most of these appointments

will be for positions in the ministries of Education and Health, according to an earlier announcement by the Council of Ministers. Referring to a Cabinet decision that certain rules and principles be adopted in the appointment of

government officials in the next three years, Mr. Ulayan said that in addition to certaio educational requirements these rules also require that a general test be taken

hy the joh candidates. He added that such tests will be arranged upon recommendations of the concerned government departments.

The CSC also takes into coosideration the year of graduation, specialisation and other matters, Mr. Ulayan said.

Io cases where there is parity among two or more candidates, the CSC will give priority to caodidates, who are sons or daughters of martyrs, or who sustain a family whose members are unemployed, or handicapped candidates who are eligible for the jobs.

The issue of government appointments bas been a centre of controversy in Parliament receotly. In its latest session Wednesday, the Lower House of Parliament formed a ninemember to probe civil service appointments in the last three years for possible nepotism and

Former German envoy visits Jordan

By a Jordan Times · Staff Reporter .

AMMAN - Former German amhassador to Jordan Herwig Bartels held talks with His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Saturday to review ways of further promoting German-Jordanian cooperation in trade and other fields, according to a source at the German embassy here.

The source told the Jordan Times that in the two-hour meeting the Prince and Dr. Bartels also exchanged views on the Middle East peace process and how to give momentum to this process in order to reach the aspired goal. Also, according to the source,

Dr. Bartels, who is accompanied by a 2-member official delegation, plans to hold talks Sunday with Minister of Industry and Trade Abdullah Ensour and Minister of Planning Ziad Fariz to explore increased cooperatioo in trade and technical fields. Financial issues will also be discussed at the meetings, the source

Dr. Bartels, who is the director of the Middle East desk at the German Foreign Ministry, Saturday met with actiog Minister of Tourism Abdul Karim Al Kabariti to discuss means of increasing

Father and 5 children drown in

Emirates ABU DHABI (R) — A Jordaman schoolteacher and five of his children drowned when one child jumped into a canal and the others tried one after another to rescue him. Newspapers reported on Saturday.

The family - father, mother and six children aged three to 18 - were picknicking on Friday beside the canal when one of the younger children apparently went for a swim, the newspapers said. The child got into difficulties

and the father jumped in to help. When he too got into difficulties, the children, boys and girls, dived in one after the other but all

The horrified mother, who remained on the beach with the youngest child, was taken to hospital suffering from a nervous hreakdown, newspaper said.

According to an obituary in Jordanian Al Ra'i Arabic daily Saturday, the father's name was given as Ibrahim Jabri Al Sayyed. His children were ideotified as Iqbal, Ijial, Inal, Jabri and Jama-

German assistance to Jordan in terms of vocational training related to tourism, with the aim of benefiting from German experiences in this area, according to the Jordan News Agency, Petra. A 10-member Jordanian busi-

ness delegation representing trade association in the Kingdom, plans a four-city tour of Germany this month to promote exportimport operations between Jordan and Germany. The German officials accom-

panying Dr. Bartels, according to the German emhassy, will hold meetings Sunday with Jordanian businessmen and officials at the Jordan Trade Associatioo (JTA) which is organising the two-week trip to Germany.

Dr. Bartels and the officials

accompanying bim will end their visit to Jordan Monday.

Jordan wants expellees repatriated before peace talks resume — minister

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan Warren Christopher's visit to Jor-wants to see a solution to the dan on Feb. 20. The commitwants to see a solution to the Palestinian expellees' crisis and their repatriation before the resumption of the Arah-Israeli peace process due next month, Foreign Minister Kamel Abu Ja-

ber, announced Saturday.
Dr. Abu Jaber addressing the Foreign Affairs Committee at the Upper House of Parliament. briefed the committee on the new developments on the Jordanian, pao-Arab and international scenes since the Israeli expulsion of over 400 Palestinians to southern Lebanon more than two months ago, including the out-come of U.S. Secretary of State

The committee emphasised the need for continued coordination among the Arab parties to the peace talks, with the purpose of reaching a common Arab stand tohandle the issue in a comprehen-

It also stressed the need for the negotiations to pursue a path that would lead to a genunie peace based on the implementation of U.N. Security Council Resolu-tions 242 and 338 and in compliance with the requirements of international legitimacy which would ensure the Palestinian peo-

The committee members voiced their demand that the U.N. Security Council shoulder its responsibilities with regard to enforcing the implementation of council resolutions in order to give impetus to the peace pro-

In an address to the Lower House of Parliament last month Dr. Abu Jaber said that His Majesty King Hussein had pointed out in his talks with Secretary Christopher that the goestion of the Palestinian exnellees was a major obstacle to the



Kamel Abu Jaber

Islamists take 4 of 10 bar association seats

By Mariam M. Shahin Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Six centrists and four Islamists were voted in as members of the executive committee of the Jordanian Bar Associatioo (JBA) in Friday's elections, a spokesman for the association announced Saturday morn-

In what marks a radical change in the character of its elite organisation, the har association took members of the Muslim Brotherhood into the ranks of its executive committee for the first time in its 42-year history.

Heavy lohbying by Islamists, and factionalism among centrists and pan-Arah groups, who traditionally dominated the jurists organisation, made a majority victory impossible for any candidate doring the first round of

A second round was called for after the Iftar at 17:30 on Friday

Five of the eight candidates for

the position of president of the committee withdrew after the first round gave only 280 votes out of 1,500 cast to any single candidate. According to the JBA's by-

laws, for a candidate to win in the first round he/she must receive 50 per cent of the votes plus one In the ensuing round only 1,282

JBA members voted. Although all three candidates were centrists, the votes were almost eveny split; 441, 432 and 409, with Kamal Nasser Bahram the declared winner. While the Islamists did not

challeoge the more secular centrists and pan-Arab candidates for the seat of JBA president, they did have a list of ten candidates for the ten available seats on the association's executive committee. Previously, the Islamists had lohhied with the association's

members to have one ticket which would group the left, cen-

Islamisis taking four seats. The centrists, who run the har association, refused this deal.

Unlike previous years, the centrists, pan-Arah groups and leftists were unable to come up with a cohesive list. Thus about 43 candidates vied for the ten seats on the council.

"It was disaster as far as political unity of the centre was concerned," said one member of the new executive committee, Mazen

Pan-Arahists, leftist groups and centrists all fought each other for seats on the council. Political observers predicted that if the Friday and Saturday elections were an early reflection of political disunity on the left and the centre of Jordan's political rainbow, then Islamists would make even greater sweeps in the upcoming legislative elections in the

Some har association members had been warned hy centrist and left wing members of the engineering association which lost

in an all-out defeat last fall. The engineering council was take over by Islamists who won und circumstances similar to thos that prevailed in the JBA ele

cons this weekend. The engineering association should have taught us a lesso

hut I guess one always thinks no is immune to such matters," sa one lawver who expressed ast nishment at the victory of for Islamists in the election. The winners in this weekend bar association elections for the executive committee by numb

of votes received and politic affiliation are: Saleh Armot (Islamist) 583, Samir Khirf Al Mustakhal Party) 573. Shah arazon (centrist) 571, Zi Khasawneh (pan-Arah) 57 Ahmad Ahu Semen (Islamis 567, Adnan Rajdan (Islamis 540, Mazen Irsheidat (indepedent) 535, Ziad Khalifeh (Islandent) ist) 528, Saleem Hatamleh (pa Arab-Nasserite) 477, and Na Madani (pan-Arah-Nasserit

Progress and Justice Party explains objectives, seeks to entice ex-members

By Sausan Ghosheh Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN - In its first press conference under the new leadership of Ali Al Saad, the Prog-ress and Justice Party (PJP) Saturday reviewed the outcome of its first convention held on Feh. 19, sought to explain the party's objectives and programmes and responded to questions regarding its two mass resigna-

Prior to their convention, the party existed as a preparatory committee, with Zaid Hamzeh as president and Ali Al Saad as vice-president. At this convention, the three-year-old party, held its first elections placing Mr. Saad in the president's seat and 50 members on a ceotral committee, that in turn elected an 18member executive bureau.

PJP's ideology originates from Jordanian heritage and culture, and its methodology is based on realism and pragmatism. He

According to Mr. Saad, the

the National Charter. The goals of the party, he stated, are to strengthen the roots of democracy and freedom in the Jordanian society, explaining that

asserted that his party ahides by

the Jordanian Constitution and

"freedom is the essence of prog-ress and justice." The party also aims to form an Arab union, perceiving Jordan as a part of the Arab World, sharing in its bopes and pains, Mr. Saad

The unity between Palestioians and Jordanians, according to the PJP president, can never be severed. He added that the PJP sees the Palestinian problem as being at the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict, and that the peace process is the appropriate method of solving the issue, as long as the negotiators adhere to the United Nations resolutions.

Economically, the PJP supports a free market and encourages open trade with other coun-Following the results of the

no personal problems betwee him and Dr. Hamzeh, hut that PJP, including its former head, resigned from the party protesting what they saw as "using the wanted the party to be tru game of democracy to take control of the party. Mr. Saad explained that à 2-

member committee was formed

to try to persuade those who

convention, 35 members of the

resigned to return to the party and that the PJP's "hands will always be open wide" for those who wish to join. But most of those who resigned

denied that anyone contacted

Mr. Saad said that eight members who resigned after the 35, have withdrawn their resignations.

Those who attended the PJP's convention realised the tense atmosphere that existed. The convention was clearly divided into two groups. Mr. Saad attri-huted this to discussions that took place before the convention regarding the leadership of the party and the date of the convention.

democratic and not just use t word democracy as an attracti He added that Dr. Hamz dropped items from the dra charter of the party without co

He emphasised that there we

suiting with the rest of the prep ratory committee. Mr. Saad and his supporters the central committee are pe ceived by Dr. Hamzeh and the who resigned as politically inc

perienced and unable to develo and add credibility to the part political and social platform. In addition, they described t PJP as becoming a "trib:

district" party hecause the member executive bureau cludes five members from o city and four from one tribe. Mr. Saad denied this sayi that the PJP is a socially a

geographically representati

Ras Al 'Ain murder suspects arrested, said to confess

Staff Reporter

AMMAN — An extra-marital affair involving the wife was apparently behind the killing of an army officer whose body was found dumped in an Amman suburb last week, police sources said Saturday.

The 17-year-old wife of Ayman Ahbadi, 25, who was a first lieutenant io the Armed Forces. and a 21-year-old youth described as ber lover were behind the murder of Ahbadi, who was strangled to death after he was giveo drugged food, the sources said, quoting a confession by the

The oames of the suspects were withheld in line with usual police inquiry and criminal trial proce-

The woman and her alleged accomplice have been arrested, and the case has been referred to the prosecutor-general's office, the sources said.

The body of Abbadi was discovered near the cigarette factory in Ral Al 'Ain, about two kilometres from his residence, Monday. His hands and feet were tied and the body was wrapped in

The state of the body was very similar to another body which

the Baqaa camp outside Amman, and the sources speculated that the killers wanted to mislead police into believing that the two

According to the sources, the story goes: The woman's lover was rehuffed in 1991 by ber family when he sought to marry her. Subsequent-

killings were lioked.

ly, Abbadi was engaged to her and after a period of estrangement — apparently due to the backdrop of the love affair they got married in September 1992. The woman maiotained her re-

lationship with the youth after marriage and the two used to meet often in public places.

On the evening of Sunday, the youth supplied 15 sleeping pills to the woman, who later administered the drugs in food to her husband. The lover, who had a duplicate key to the house, arrived at the scene, and with the help of the wife, strangled the man with a scarf. The two wrapped the body in a

bag and after waiting for some time transported it in a box to Ras Al 'Ain where they dumped it, hoping to mislead police into believing that whoever was behind the Baqaa killing was also responsible for this murder in

view of the similarities of the two police were not misled and they

beginning. The woman was questioned, and after initial denials she hroke down and confessed to the crime, they said.

suspected the wife from the very

She was quoted as saying that with her husband out of the way she and her lover haped that they could get married. The case was bandled hy

Ashrafiyeh police. It was the second case of death involving an extra-marital affair reported in one week.

In the first case, a 21-year-old youth was helieved to have leaped to his death from a third floor window in Shmeisani after being trapped in a compromising situation with a married woman, whose husband arrived home un-

expectedly.
Meanwhile, questioning continued of suspects in the Baqaa killing of Abdul Hameed Salman, who was a member of a hardline Palestine group based in Damascus, sources said.

A senior source said earlier that police were keeping all possihilines open in their investigations and "political motives" bad not been ruled out.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

Exhibition of paintings by four Arab artists.

from the United States - Ghada Jamai, Helen Khal. Suha Noursi and Afaf Zurayk - at the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation Gallery in Jabal Amman, between the First and Second Circles (10 a.m.- 4 p.m.)

☆ Islamic book exhibition at the Islamic Centre in Zaroa.

Civil status office to open in Rweished

Status and Passport Department will soon open a civil status registration office in Rweished near the eastern borders to serve the town and several villages and population settlements nearby.

Zarqa governorate. With the planned office Rweished, the three-civil regist tion offices will offer services at least 16 villages and populati settlements including Trebil the Iraqi-Jordanian horder, A Head of the department's Pub-

lic Relations Office Muhieddin A total of 12,000 citizens livi Kilani Saturday announced that in March the department opened in Al Jafer and Eil within t two civil status registration offices Maan governorate.



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Islam deplores murder of people

REGARDLESS OF whether or not Muslim militants were behind the Feh. 26 bombing of the World Trade Centre in New York, the central issue that remains is where Islam truly stands on such acts of violence. In the wake of the arrest of Mohammad Salameh, an alleged follower of Egyptian Sheikh Omar Abdul Rahman, as a suspect in the bombing, and the ensuing remarks of Sbeikh Abdul Rahman that "the bombing could not have been done hy a true Muslim," the international community has a right to know how Islam views attacks on civilian targets and the killing of innocent people.

There were several incidents in the Middle East region as well as in other parts of the world where Muslim fundamentalists were accused of perpetrating attacks on men and women in a manner that is clearly repugnant to Islam. The silence of the Muslim World in the face of repeated accusations, often resulting from fundamentalists' attacks on non-military targets, helped perpetuate a false impression about Islam itself.

In fact Islam has one of the most advanced rules on humanitarian law if not the most progressive one that humanity had ever conceived. The Islamic code on the conduct of warfare, for example, goes beyond the Geneva Convention of 1949 and the two protocols that were added to it in 1977. Not only are children, women and old people are protected in time of war. Even trees, water springs, buildings and animals are accorded the same degree of protection. This had been prescribed by the Prophet Mohammad's companion, the second Caliph, Omar Ben Al Khattah when he addressed his armies heading north for the conquest of Syria. Such is the high standards of Islam on the conduct of an armed struggle that the international community does not know or appreciate.

The problem lies in the fact that Muslim leaders opt always to maintain their silence whenever an Islamic faction or another conducts its struggle in a manner that is anathema to Islam. This gave rise to speculations about where true Muslims stand whenever a certain Muslim group or another takes credit for an attack on a child, woman or man.

In the attack in New York City last week, there is no question about where true Islam stands on such barbaric action. It behooves the entire Islamic world to rise up in protest to the New York bombing no matter who is ultimately charged with placing the bombs. Till this point in time, there is not enough evidence to incriminate Muslim radicals in the bombing. Many other political groups could also be suspects. Muslim leaders should speak up loud and clear whenever Muslim extremists are implicated in acts that violate the basic principles of Islam.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

HONOURING the great Muslim leader Saladdin reflects Jordan's respect for the forefathers of the Islamic Nation and its heroes, said Al Ra'i daily Saturday. History abounds with great men who carried out great feats for their nation and for upholding the principles of the Islamic faith, said the daily. Saladdin's name was connected with this part of the world and Jordan in particular. because this land served as the main battleground between Saladdin's armies and those of the Crusaders who invaded the Holy Land, the paper said. By observing the anniversary of the death of this great leader, said Al Ra'i, Jordan is manifesting its adherence to the principles and goals he had held and worked for liberating the Arab land from the invaders. Invaders of this part of the world, according to history books, were numerous but none of them remained because they were driven out by the will of the Arab Nation, the paper added. Saladdin has served as a model leader of faith and of troops which waged war on the invaders and one who based his campaigns on the true faith genuine adherence to Islam, the paper said. Saladdin was the model Islamic leader who dedicated all his efforts to rid the Arab and Islamic world of the foreign domination and of forces like those which launched aggression on Iraq and continue to impose starvation on its people, the paper said.

Saleb Al Qallab, columnst in Al Dustour, Saturday voiced his apprehension about the decision to delay indefinitely for a meeting for the foreign ministers of Arab countries involved in the peace process with Israel. Saying that the Arab foreign ministers had earlier intended to hold their parley before U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher's tour of the regioo, the writer said that it would be more useful to delay the meeting after Mr. Christopher had ended his tour. But the U.S. secretary of state has long been gone, and the meeting has again been postponed until after the end of the month of Ramadan, the writer said. He said that the delay and the postponement could last for ever, giving rise to differences among the Arab parties, some of which could be tempted by the Americans to clinch separate deals with the Israelis. If the delay is to allow for more time for consultations among the Arab parties, this is a welcome development. But the Arab parties should realise that Israel will not rest without trying to disrupt the united stand of the Arab parties like it did in the wake of the 1948 and 1973 wars, causing splits among their ranks, something which helped the Jewish state to achieve its goals, warned the writer. He said he was prompted to express fear about the situation in the light of reports about behind-the-scene contacts which aim at the conclusion of a separate deal between an Arab party and Israel and at the expenses of the other parties.

Sunday's Economic Pulse

By Dr. Fahed Al Fanek

Excellent results squeezed from crises

JORDAN DID a soper job in dealing with the numerous crises that bit the country since 1988. Jordao was not only able to survive and overcome these crises, but also to turn them around

It is said that the word "crisis" in Chinese is a combination of two syllables of which the first means difficulty and the secood means opportunity. Thus, crisis, in the perception of Chinese wisdom, is a difficult situation coupled with an opportunity for anideal solution. Of course, letting the opportunity slip, and leaving the crisis to run its own course would transfer the crisis into a disaster, or to a hopeless case.

Fortunately, this fact was understood early io time by the Jordanian leadership. It is not a coincideoce that all major crises, which struck Jordan during the last four years, did not cause the anticipated collapse. On the contrary these crises turned out to be opportunities to make gains.

The Gulf crisis for example, which erupted in 1990, could have broken the back of the Jordanian treasury, which was until then dependent on Gulf states' financial aid that vanished overnight. The end result was that the Jordanian treasury received more financial aid than was lost due to the crisis. The treasury is now much closer to self-sufficiency than it ever bad been.

The massive return of tens of thousands of Jordanian expatriates and their families from Kuwait was thought to cause the Jordaniao ship to sink under the impact of heavy burdens. Jordan however, was not only able to absorb the returnees smoothly, but the Jordanian economy received a push forward.

The expatriates' funds and expertise, which were previously employed in Kuwait, came back to work hard for Jordan, And thanks to the proper management of the crisis by the Jordanian side, the huge loss to Kuwait resulting from its inhuman action in expelling Jordanians and Palestinians became the gain of Jordan.

The foreign indebtedness crisis, which broke in 1988, could have permanently crippled the Jordanian economy and transformed Jordan ioto a chaotic place with starving people, as bappened in most other developing countries which were hit by similar crisis. Yet our case, the crisis was a valuable opportunity to adjust the distorted economy and put it on the right path in accordance with a comprehensive economic adjustment programme. The programme entitled sacrifices which were duely accepted by the population, and it achieved excellent results which were the envy of the world and a source of respect by impressed observers and interoational institutions.

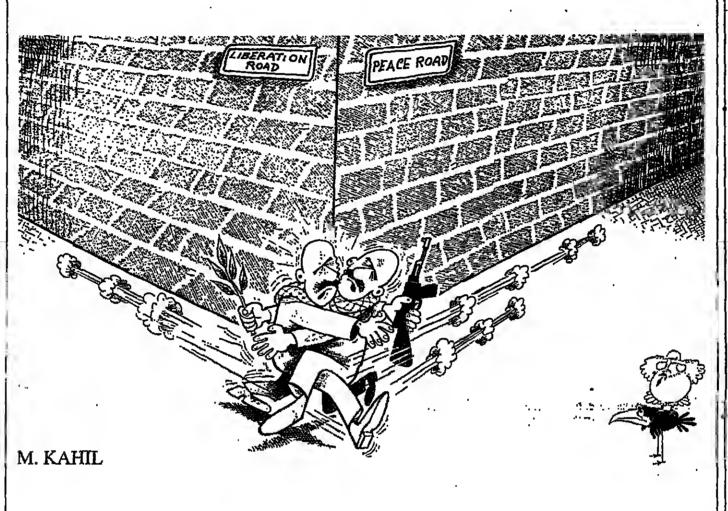
The social uprising and the violence that accompanied it in April 1989 could have transformed Jordan to another Lebanon or led to political anarchy. Instead, it gave rise to a democratisation process — led by a far-sighted leader which made Jordan stand out as the most democratie and free society in the Arab World. Israel can no longer claim that it is the only democracy io the Middle East. In fact, it is no democracy at all, except for one class of privileged citizens. The apartheid system, the cootinued occupation of Arab land, the violations of human rights, the

expulsion policy and defiance to international law do not indicate democracy.

Many crises fell on Jordan which were not of its making oor its seeking, but they were turned into opportunities for progress and reform. Did that bappeo by coincidence, by a strike of luck, or

through good management?

This is a question which I leave to the reader to judge for him or



The dilema of the expellees

A catalyst for peace?

By Dr. As'ad Abdul Rahman THE COMING week will uodoubtedly reveal more results of

the new American Secretary of State Warren Christopher's Middle Eastern visit and his later political efforts to get the Arab-Israeli peace talks back on track. The indirect and bitherto confideotial results will take somewhat longer time to materialise because their disclosure now will be attributed to direct or indirect American pressure, something which will embarrass more than one party or regime in the area.

Mr. Christopher made it clear to all parties concerned that the new American administration is deeply committed to the peace process in the area. The renewed Americao commitment was met by the approval of all parties to resume negotiations, albeit the Palestinian participation was linked to solving the expellees prob-

All Arab countries viewed the problem of the expellees as an "obstacle to negotiations" that ought to be solved by a concerted effort among the three major parties, the U.S., Israel and the Arabs. The ultimate solution of the problem will be a compromise with no single party emerging to be victorious. The Americans will appear as an honest broker exerting no pressure oo either party. Israel will emerge semivictorious or at best the undefeated or semi-victorious party of the trio. The Arabs will also emerge as the undefeated party in a battle of political confrontation

with Israel. According to some authoritanive sources, a new Israeli initiative is expected to see the light soon under this initiative, all cases of appeal submitted earlier by the expellees will be viewed favourably with the eventual result of accepting the return of all evictees. Moreover, Israeli Foreign Minister Shimoo Peres' early statement that expelling the 400 plus Palestinians was "an isolated incident" caused by "exceptional circumstances" will be viewed - and after Mr. Christopher's visit albeit unofficially - as Israel's to help reach a draft for settlestance on the issue of expulsion, a ment, Moreover, Mr. Rabin's allay the fears of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

The Arab disengagement from this dilemma will most probably be phased out during the forth-coming meeting of Arab foreign ministers of the countries bordering Israel "to evaluate the result of the visit to the area of the American Secretary of State". It is most likely that Arab participation in the coming nintb round of talks will be fixed and confirmed during that meeting. A satisfac-tory solution to the problem of the expellees will be reached before the resumption of talks.

statement indirectly intended to most recent indirect talk about a complete Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights in return for a peace treaty with Syria clearly upholds this view. To sum up, it has become increasingly obvious that the

"strategy of deportation" which Israel has often resorted to since 1967 is facing an increasingly hostile world public opinioo. Once a corner stone of Israel's domestic policy against Palesti-nians and their leaders, the "policy of deportation" is now retreating under world public pressure. Despite some statements upholding "deportatioo" of a sabre-

"The positive result of the whole issue of the expellees outweighs by far its negative implications, especially inthe present balance of power."

The way the Arabs, especially the Palesunians, dealt with the issue of expellees remains highly controversial. Very few Arab political analysts view the issue as 'a defeat for Arab and especially Palestinian diplomacy", To them, it was "an example of bow we failed to take advantage of the golden opportunity, which Re-solutioo 799 offered us". On the other side, however, other political observers hail the positive results of that confrontation.

Where does the truth lay amidst these two irreconcilable views? As the writer sees it, the legendary steadfastness of the expellees themselves and the brave and clear position of the Palestinian negotiating delegation, the decisive position of the PLO leadership, and especially world public opinion are all factors that much outweigh the negative aspects of the confrontation. We believe that the issue of the

expellees was cleverly utilised -

rattling nature which Mr. Rabin made and later was forced to indirectly withdraw during a joint press conference with Secretary Warren Christopher on Feb. 22, and despite the American/Israeli deal regarding the "expelled" prior to Mr. Christopher's visit, observers can easily discern a tone quite different from what they used to hear from previous Likud governments. Examples confirming this view

are not hard to detect. First came Mr. Rabin's government retreat from a decisioo taken by the previous Liktud government to expell 13 Palestinians. Then came Israel's gradual and systematic retreat from the present issue; Israel first admitted that some of the expelled were expelled by mistake! It later softened its positioo regarding homanitarian and medical aid to the evictees! Then came the American/Israeli deal by which 101 expelled Palestinians were to return immediately in a hush-hush manner - before while reducing to half the expul-

sion period for the rest. Most important of all, came Mr. Rabin's and Mr. Peres' statements that the "deportation" is

no longer a tool of Israel's policy. This is wby, it is my belief, that Security Council Resolution 799, the official and public antideportation policy declared by many states and political and economic pressure exerted by the European Community will substantially freeze Israel's expulsion policy until a negotiated settle-

ment is reached. Although the issue of the evictees is not over yet, it was employed by many parties (including some Israelis) as a catalyst for the peace process and the promotion of buman rights for the Palestinians in the occupied territories. In politics things are not judged by their appearances but rather by the amount of change they can nerate, albeit such change can

hardly be discerned in public.

The positive result of the whole issue of the expellees outweighs by far its negative implications, especially in the present balance of power in the area.

For the first time, Palestinian steadfastness and Arab and international pressure have succeeded in forcing Israel to succumb to pressure and implement Resolution 799, though in a piecemeal manner. Such positive developments could not have been possible without the sacrifices of the Palestinian people and international solidarity with the cause. We have every reason to believe that the tragedy of the evictees helped put the peace process on the right track.

Finally, the current surge of violence and counter violence can (and perhaps should) be seen as a harbioger of an approaching settlemeot rather than as a departure from it, provided that the new American administration and Europe decide to activate and increase their positive

The writer is a member of the Palestine National Council

Tajikistan

'A false sense of security'

By David Ljunggren Reuter

DUSHANBE, Tajikistan - After months of virtual civil war between former Communists and Muslim forces in Tajikistan, some sense of normality seems to be returning to this impoverished mountainous Central Asian state.

The Muslim rebels are pinned into three mountain gorges, the capital Dushanbe is under a tight curfew and the government is concentrating on how to revive the sbattered economy.

Bot Western officials and di-

plomats likeo Tajikistan, riven by age-old clan conflicts, to a keg of gunpowder which could explode at any moment. "We look at the situation here

with profound concern," Liviu Bota, head of the United Nations office in Dushanbe.

"We consider there is a general insecurity all over the country and fear is widespread at all levels of society."

The oew government took

charge in January after the Mus-Im opposition - now officially who want to create a second get very complicated." he said. Iran — was driven from power by the armed forces of the Tajik Popular Front, headed by exconvict Sangak Safarov.

However no one seems to be in full control.

Bursts of aotomatic gunfire rip through central Dushanbe each patrols enforcing the curfew, depending on who one listens to.

"One of our main concerns is the respect for basic human rights which are being violated on a scale which should be considered unacceptable," said Mr. Bota.
"The situation is complicated

are plenty of armed groups roaming around who are not subordinate to anyone," said Felix Dov-zhenok, an adviser to the Russian ambassador on national ques-

Division, whose troops are help-ing attack the rebels as well as The 5,000 refugees from Kuring attack the rebels as well as

the division's tank battalion. "If the Russian army were Russian officers guarding the there we'd go back. We just don't capital's main flour mill laugh trust the Popular Front," said one

militia they replaced.

Interior Ministry officials open- official. ly admit the passes they hand out

endless checkpoints dotted along termarriage. the country's otherwise deserted

Safarov's signature.

said Mr. Safarov aide Sangmuhammed Zairov. But he added: They agree

their moves with us. The doomed economy looms over any conversation — ministers say last year the fighting cost 250 billion roubles (\$434 million). Production in January fell 30 per cent compared to the same month

last year.
Mr. Dovzhenok said half the republic's 400,000 Russians many of them specialists — had left since 1989.

"I don't think the government has realised the full effect this has had," he said. Sait-Amir Zukhurov, head of

the Tajik National Security Committee, says his main concern is the tens of thousands of refugees from the southern cotton-rich Kurgan-Tyube province who fled to Afghanistan and Dushanbe.

Last year's cotton harvest, one of the best ever, lies largely rot-ting in the fields of Kurgan-

"If we can get the refugees back in their homes, there won't be a war. Otherwise, things will In the way stands the complex make-up of Tajik society. "The whole business of fun-

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Arrest in

damentalism was just a cover story — this is all about clan warfare," said one diplomat. Tajikistan was created from

three major opposing clans — the Pamiris and the Garmites in the hunting down their enemies or north and the Kulyabis in the

In the 1930s, thousands of Garmites were forcibly moved to Kurgan-Tyube, next to Kulyab. to help harvest the cotton.

The conflict exploded as strict Communist rule withered and the warring tribes found themselves by lots of factors, one being there awash with arms from former Soviet army units and groups in neighbouring Afghanistan, itself riven by fierce power struggles.

When the Muslims took power last year they blockaded Kulyab. the main centre of opposition, for All observers say the only stasis months. When the tables bilising force in the republic is the were turned the Kulyabis blamed Russian 201st Motorised Infantry the Garmites and laid waste to

guarding key buildings.

"I think we'll be here for a long the stinking Central Hotel time," said Lieutenant-Colonel Dushanbe are in no great hurry to Grigory Dyomin, commander of go back to their destroyed homes.

when asked about the efficiency man, surrounded by swarms of of the local Tajik police and filthy chattering children. "The situation looks desperate

Popular Front officials and - if the international community ministers deflect questions about could mobilise quiekly we could major crisis. The potenment holds over the government, tial for the conflict spreading is But some of the signs are clear, high," said one senior foreign

The vicious ethnic fighting also to visiting correspondents are dealt a heavy blow to Communist attempts to portray Tajikistan as The only document which a homogenous whole," with the guarantees passage through the various clans linked through in-

"Tajikistan was never a naroads is a letter bearing Mr. tion," scoffed one Kulyab soldier, "We never liked to inter-"We don't give the government marry because we knew we had directions — they are in charge," to keep our blood pure."

German army

In search of a new mission

By Terrence Petty The Associated Press

DIETERSDORF, Germany ern German, is accustomed to training camp for draftees serving efficiency in both military and 12 months of active duty.

can never be sure how many will

patience.

long ago," be said.

The Bundeswehr is Western

Europe's largest army, created in 1955 to counter a possible invasion by the Warsaw Pact. But the German military is groping for a new mission even as it grapples with internal change. Chancellor Helmut Kohl wants

the Bundeswehr to take part in international peacekeeping missions like Somalia but has been frustrated by Germany's Constitution, which prevents armed German deployment on non-NATO turf. When Germany was reunited

took over East Germany's military instaliations and weapons and Yugoslavia, Somalia or elsegradually discharged most of the .where. 172,000 troops of the People's

50,000 troops out of a total force em German draftee. of 420,000 - stationed in former men who grew up under the Commonist system and are wary

stereotypes that resulted from Berlin.

four decades of separation." Once a Warsaw Pact air defence base with surface to air Lt. Carsten Ruthkowski, a West-missiles, the post now serves as a

civilian life, so bis assignment to sion making in the Bundeswehr. ist Eastern Germany can try his In the National People's Army, patience.

you had had to follow every regulation to the letter," said the carriers are hand me downs from post commander, 1st Lt. Ziedo East Germany's National Peo. Ottow, a former officer of the ple's Army, and Mr. Ruthkowski People's Army, one of about People's Army, one of about 5,600 now in the Bundeswehr,

start in the morning.

"We have about 25 BMPs. But ime, he had to worry about Stasi, some of them stopped running secret police planted in the ranks to inform on soldiers who might stray from Communist ideology. Still, Mr. Ottow contends, the People's Army was probably better prepared for war than its West German foe. Training was more demanding, and East German soldiers were kept on nearly constant alert.

Many Germans oppose a broader foreign role for the Bundeswehr, a legacy of guilt about Nazi crimes in World War II.

Many career soldiers favour a broadcoed international role for the Bundeswehr. But draftees at Dietersdorf, from East and West. in October 1990, the Bundeswehr expressed an aversion to fighting someone else's battles in former

"I wouldn't volunteer to go The Bundeswehr has about old Michael Leonhardt, an East

The Bundeswehr is expected to East Germany. Many are young instill democratic values and Western-style discipline in young Germans from the East.

of Western German values.

Mr. Ruthkowski says some of the 200 draftees and 50 officers, a Dietersdorf, population 460, is mix of Eastern and Western Ger- surrounded by farmland 110 mans, "come bere with miles (190 kms) southwest of

Difficult for talks without Palestinians

(Continued from page 1)

there was no trace of cancer found during the last checkup that I had.

In Tunis, Palestine Liberation Organisatioo (PLO) Saturday capped a week of intensive talks by calling on Israel to allow the return of the Palestinian exiles before Palestinian-Israeli peace talks can resume cext month.

But PLO sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the statement was not the final word on whether the Palestioiaus would participate in the talks.

.The sources said further contacts with the parties to the talks would be pursued in an effort to find a solution to the crisis over the expellees. They said those parties would include Syria. Jordan, Lebanon and the other Arah partners in the peace talks.

The leadership of the PLO had been meeting for a week in an effort to forge a final position on whether Palestinians should participate in the talks.

In their statement, carried hy the Palestiniau news agency WAFA, the PLO leaders said the exiles must be allowed to return before the Palestinians will resume talks with Israel.

PLO leaders themselves appear to be divided over the issue. They also are vying for power in the occupied territories with the Muslim fundamentalist Hamas faction, which rejects participation in the peace talks. Lebanese Prime Minister Rafiq

Al Hariri said to remarks published Saturday Lebanon would never grant nationality to hundreds of thousands of Palestinian residents who should be allowed by Israel to go back bome.

"As far as we are concerned they should go hack to Pales-tine," he told journalists, the Beirut correspondent of Kuwait's Al Qabas newspaper reported.

Mr. Hariri said Lebanon would not be pressed by Israel or any other party to give nationality to the Palestinians, which the newspaper nomberd at about 350,000.

This is for us to decide. We are an independent country... the (Israeli) tanks reached Beirut and could not impose settling them (in Lebanon)," Mr. Hariri was quoted as saying in a reference to Israel's 1982 invasion.

Arah countries have consistently rejected Israeli arguments that Arab hosts should settle within their border Palestinian refugees who have fled the Israeli-occupied territories or been made homeless by five Arab-Israeli wars in the last 45

"We can't accept settling them even if the U.S. or Russia. accepted it or if our hrothers Mr. Hariri said.

Referring to the peace talks, he said: "There are negotiations, so let us wait for the results. I cannot say what is going to happen to them, hut I can assert that no settling or nationalisation will happen. That is what I know, because it is in my hand as govern-

cautioned against assuming

"You can make fun of him all

you want to, but this thing work-

ed," the source said. "It worked

Rohert Precht, Salameh's

awyer, said the government had

client, adding that Salameh was

highly agitated and absolutely

scandalised by the charges." The

Precht said the government had no proof that Salameh was lying

when be had stated that the van

"And if it is true that the van

was stolen before the World

Trade Centre bombing, then the

government case against Mr. Salameh collapses," the lawyer

against a Somali teen last month

said foreign troops must view every Somali on the street as a

did kids carry (explosives) into a village?" asked Sergeant Harry

to decide whether he faces a court

Some people don't. When you're

out there, you can't tell," he said.

shooting Ahmad Addi Omar, 13. and another teen on Feb. 2 after

Omar reached into the military

vehicle Sgt. Conde was riding in

Sgt. Conde faces charges for

"Some people want us here.

"How many times in Vietnam

very weak case against his

perfectly. They all got away."

Salameb is stupid.

was in fact stolen.

FBI holds 3 more in bombing case office after the hlast. But he

(Continued from page 1)

the hlast wreckage to a truck rental agency. The van may have carried the bomh, authorities say. Salameh was arrested shortly 'after trying to get back a \$400 deposit he had placed to rent the

Salameh was refusing to cooperate with authorities, said the federal source.

"Maybe they left him behind as a signature," the source said. "Maybe it was their game plan all along to leave him behind." The federal source also linked Salameh to the Muslim Brother-

hood hased in Egypt. The federal source acknowledged that Salameh made the work of investigators easier by returning to the car rental agency

Violence continues in Somalia

(Continued from page 1)

"The patrol took fire. The patrol returned fire. The patrol got the hell out of there," said Air Force captain Joe Davis, a U.S. military spokesman. "If any ones who shot first."

Five people were taken to Denadir hospital. A nurse, speaking on condition she not be identified, said three were dead when

they arrived.
The official report of the incident said a two-vehicle patrol was moving when it took six hursts of automatic fire from nearby alleys and rooftops. The motive for the attack was unknown, the report

Meanwhile. a Marine suspected of using excessive force

and stole the soldier's prescription sunglasses. Omar was wounded in the abdomen by duckshot pellets, and the 17 year

old hystander was hit in the arm. Egypt charges dozens for attacks

(Continued from page 1) not investors' could become a target for our legitimate retribu-

tion in the near future," it added. The group is believed to be behind the series of attacks on foreign tourists under the slogan "tourism but not tourists." By which it means that its policy is to cause damage to property, such as tourist huses, hut not hurt

The Islamic Group, fighting Egypt's government to impose what it sees as a pure Islamic state, also claimed responsibility for killing an Egyptian intelli-gence officer and his son in the

southern town of Assiut -The Islamic Group calls on Arah and foreign states to follow the course of the United States and Britain and warn their subjects to leave Egypt for the sake of their lives," the statement said.

Brotherhood sees Israeli hand in blast

(Continued from page 1)

contacts with people associated

The diplomatic contacts, he said, were prompted by the "suc-cess that Hamas and Islamic Jihad have achieved on the political level" in the wake of "increased resistance activities in the occupied territories" and the Dec. 17 Israeli expulsion of more than 415 Palestinians suspected of being activists of the two fun-

damentalist Palestinian groups. The U.S. decision to end such dialogue was hrought about hy "Zionist influence," he asserted, calling on Washiogton to "apply logic and ascertain" whether such a course of policy bodes well for American credibility.

Mr. Mansour rejected Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) criticism of the U.S.-Hamas contacts.

"God forgive" Yasser Arafat th for his criticism of Hamas, Mr. Mansour said, referring to the PLO chairman as "president of Palestine."

"We hope he will deal with all ho Palestinian groups without a hos-

Ditile attitude."
Hamas "is an independent talgroup with its own leadership

Arany party," he added. The Islamic Resistance Movement is not a "terrorist group," he said, assailing moves launched hy two American congressmen to ar its people from the U.S.

Senator Alfonse D'Amato and Representative Peter Deutsch have presented legislation to the Senate and the House of Representatives to allow for the deportation of foreigners identified as members of Hamas and to ban the entry of Hamas members in the U.S. The bill aims at amending the Immigration and Naturalisation Act to list Hamas as

"terrorist group." We condemn these American moves against Hamas and express hope that the United States would resort to reason and credibility in dealing with the region,' Mansour said.

Deputy Kofaween said that during their visit to the Palestinian expellees stranded in South Lebanon and living in tent camp since Dec. 17, "we found the moral strength (of the exiles)

higher than ever. They are living in abysmal conditions," he told the press conference. "They are not getting proper food or water. They live an area where is it extremely cold. Some of them are suffering from serious ailments. But the suffering has not weakened their morale and determination to resist all Israeli plans."

Sheikh preached revolution, turmoil in Egyptian hometown

By Dalia Baligh The Associated Press

FAYOUM, Egypt — In the dark and cramped Martyrs' Mosque in this southern Egyptian town, Sheikh Omar Abdul Rahman used to preach revolution and the violent overthrow of Egypt's secular government.

He has lived in New Jersey for almost three years now, but violent Muslim extremism races on Egypt. A movement Sheikh Abdul Rahman once personally commanded is now run by subordinates who, the government says, take their cues from him. Their latest tactic has been to

attack foreign lourists. The government has responded with a crackdown, and Sheikh Abdul Rahman's followers are among 700 extremists arrested since

THEY ARE few, but they are

the ties that bind the Republic

of China and Arab countries

Situated in downtown

Taipei, the Sino-Arabian

Cultural and Economic Asso-

ciation serves as a hridge for

the peoples of Taiwan and

Arahia. This was true when

diplomatic ties still existed be-

tween the ROC and Saudi

Arabia, and it has become

doubly true since 1990, when

the Saodis switched recogni-

"We are a 'private diploma-

tie group," said Ting Wei-tzu,

the association's secretary-

Ting is a retired diplomat.

His long, distinguished career included eight years in Arab

The association was set op in

1975 when the world was still

reeling from the shock of the

"energy crisis." In response to

a rising call to enhance rela-

tions with the oil-rich area, the

government and a group of

industrial leaders acted to

establish the private organisa-

State-run firms, such as

Chinese Petroleum Coro.

Taiwan Fertilizer Co. Ltd. and

BES Engineering Corp. com-

tion, said Ting.

members.

states, from 1971 to 1977.

tion to Peking.

general.

together in friendship.

When U.S. authorities arrested a member of Sheikh Abdul Rahman's New Jersey congregation Thursday as a suspect in the World Trade Centre explosion, the news hardly caused a ripple in Fayoum, 100 kilometres south of

Cairo. The Egyptian government accuses Sheikh Abdul Rahman of sending money to Muslim extremists in Egypt, and his voice is still heard in Egypt, in the taperecorded sermons he sends from New Jersey.

One calls on Muslim youth to "hit hard and kill the enemies of God in every spot, to rid it of the descendants of apes and pigs fed at the tables of Zionism, communism and imperialism.

There is no truce in Jihad (holy war) against the enemies of Allah."

Sheikb Abdul Rahman, 54 and blind, left his family and followers in 1990, obtained a U.S. visa in Sudan and went to New York before setting in New Jersey.

An associate who said he spoke with Sheikh Abdul Rahman in Detroit Friday, said the cleric denies any involvement in the trade centre bombing and conde-

Dr. Mohammad T. Mehdi, an Arab-American community leader in New York City, also said the sheikh's religious pronouncements should not be taken literal-

Sheikh Abdul Rahman, he said, was sometimes guilty of "big talk ...lots of hig talk, Arah

"That's such a hig part of Arah tradition — beautiful, flowery language," Dr. Mehdi said. "But

all talk, no actioo."

During noon prayers in Fayoum Friday, the Martyrs' Mosque was filled with a few dozen teen-age boys and their fathers who listened to a government-appointed preacher talk strictly about religioo instead of politics.

Sheikh Abdul Rahman's followers here bave been either arrested or driven underground, where they have formed oew

Resideots of Fayoum still remember the hlind sheikh and readily direct visitors to his home and mosque. Police vans no lonhlock the roads leading there, but his family and neighbours shy away from speaking to strangers.

My father does not allow to speak to reporters," said the

in reality to do violence, no. It's sheikh's veiled teen-age daughto the family's apartment in a rundown building above a fish

> He calls us every now and 'tben. I don't know anything about the bombing in New York or this man they have arrested. I am sorry but I cannot speak to you anymore. She refused to give her

A man in his 20s who was grinding meat in a hutcher shop near Sheikh Abdul Rahman's home said the town has been quiet since the government crack-ed down on the sheikh's followers. He spoke on condition of anouvmity.

A paunchy man in his 40s just returning from noon prayers said be used to attend Sheikh Abdul Rahman's sermons.

This man, who also spoke or ter, standing on the stairs leading condition of anonymity, said the cleric preached violence and tha many people were afraid of him and his followers.

The extremists stepped up their violence about 14 months ago first concentrating on police and Coptic Christians, their tradition al targets, then turning on foreign

tourists. "To those lamenting whal ha happened to tourism. I say it i sinful," Sheikh Abdul Rahmai said in one of his taped sermon shipped from New Jersey. "The lands of Muslims will not become dordellos for sinners of every race and colour."

Last year, 80 people were kil led and 133 wounded in violency blamed on Muslim extremists Since Jan. 1, 13 have died and 3 have been wounded.

ROC, Arab states remain friends

Association helps bridge the large gap between two cultures

By Song Sa-Feng



Ting Wei-tzu

committees: Publications, activities, membership, finance and Sino-Saudi economic and trade cooperation. Committee chairmen are selected from among the senior executives of its institutional members.

The association also has a secretariat, which consists of Ting and his staff of around five people. This section takes charge of the day-to-day husiness of the association.

When one considers the mount of husiness the association must undertake, the secretariat is really understaffed.

prise the bulk of the associa-"Each of us must be prepared to perform a wide varietion's some 60 institutional ty of tasks," said association... secretary Rau Chi-li. The association has five



Rau Chi-li

The main activities of the association are to foster cultural exchange, promote trade and economic cooperation with the Arah countries, sponsor mutual good-will visits, and do research work on Sino-Arabian cultural and economic relations.

The secretariat, in assisting government agencies, receives Arahian guests to the ROC. It also arranges education programmes for ROC groups who plan to visit Arabia to initiate them to Arab manners and

"The education is necessary to avoid transgressing Islamic taboos," said Ting. To bring about a wider

The association holds a num-

uuderstanding of the Arah World among the people of Taiwan, the association publishes a bi-monthly bulletiu, the Sino-Arabian Association Bulletin. The bulletio is a very plain publication, but it serves as an important information source for local people interested in promoting links with the Arah states.

One hundred and three issues of the hulletio have already rolled off the presses. The editing is principally the work of two people, Ting and Rau Chi-li. "The publication is plain in

appearance because we are restricted by a lack of funds. and editing staff. But we are proud to say that there has never been a delay to the printing of the periodical, and there are no misprints either," said

These two editors also publish books on other Arabic topics. The publication plan aims at putting out one book per year, covering fields ranging from Islamic arts to Arabian literature and economic development.

In addition to these many duties, the associatioo also does its best to offer hospitality about 100 Arabs living in Taiwan. Most of them are merchants, but some others are students.

ber of activities for local Arah



Arab and Chinese guests mingle at a Chinese New Year's party and enjoy and other performances.

students. Every year around the Chinese Lunar New Year's boliday, it bolds a large party. which normally attracts over 300 Chinese and Arabian

"All the Arabs in Taiwan come to the occasion to have fun with Chinese people," said Rau. "And no matter where they come from - eveo from countries which are hostile toward each other - they at least have good times together under this roof," said Rau.

in Arabia, Ting said the ROC's friendship with the Arab countries is built on the firm base of the cootributions of the ROC people to Arah development. Many highways, airports,

office huildings and hospitals in the area are the results of the sweat of ROC technicians. In the 1980s, the number of Taiwan technicians, medical personnel and other workers stationed in the area reached over 10,000 people.

Among the many agricultural missions that journeyed to Arabia from many lands, the ROC achieved the greatest successes in helping Arabian . agricultural development. In another notable achievement, the first heart surgery in Saud Arabia was performed by a Taiwan doctor.

"Our friendship with Arabia bas been won through hard work. It is one built from the grassroots level up," he said.

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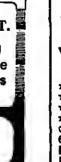
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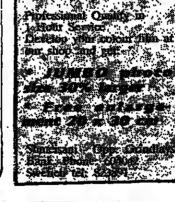




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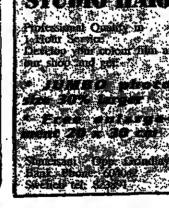
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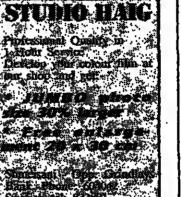
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JORDAN MARKET PLACE

Jim Courier named Player of the Year

INDIAN WELLS, California (AP) — Jim Courier, only the 10th player to be ranked No. 1 in the 21 year history of the ATP Tour rankings, was selected 1992 Player of the Year Friday night. He was honoured at the annual IBN ATP tour awards gala, which was dedicated to Arthur

Ashe, who died Feb. 6 of AIDS related complications, was named Humanitarian of the Year. His wife, Jeanne, was to accept the award.

Courier won five events, including the Australian and French Opens, last year. Courier and Stefan Edberg en-

gaged in a yearlong race for No. 1 in 1992, and the lead changed hands five times. Edberg is a past player of the

year. He received the sportsmanship award as voted by the tour players. Mark Woodforde and Todd

Woodhridge of Australia were named Douhles Team of the Andrei Medvedev, an 10-year-

old from the Ukraine, received



Jim Courier

three tour victories and rise to No. 24 at the end of 1992. Frenchman Henri Leconte, who rebounded from major back surgery to conclude the year at No. 61, was named Comehack

Player of the Year. Other winners were: Henrik Holm of Sweden, Most Improved; the U.S. Hardcourts Championship in Indianapolis, Tournament of the Year for the

fourth straight time; and the late Dan Maskell, who hroadcast Wimhledon for the British Broadcasting Corp., Media Excellence Award.

Proceeds from the benefit dinner will go to the Arthur Ashe Foundation for the Defeat of AIDS, Inc., the American Foundation for AIDS Research

Chronology of events in the career

of Canadian sprinter Ben John-son, who was banned for life for

lair Johnson, Falmouth, Jamaica,

100 metres silver medal in Bris-

medal.

1987 —

oping Friday: 1961 — Born Benjamin Sinc-

1976 - Emigrates to Canada

1982 — Wins Commonwealth

1988 - After lackluster build-

nozolol and is stripped of gold

medal and banned for two years.

admits to Canada's Dubin Com-

mission that he had taken steroids

1991 — Makes unimpressive

he stumbles in blocks and finishes

1993 — Clocks 5.65 over 50 metres in Grenoble, 0.04 of a

way in Toronto.

sion of moderate times.

last in his semifinal.

Peanuts

Andy Capp

Mutt'n'Jeff

HEY! FOR THE SOUTH

TIME, I'M ASKING YOU GUYS TO MOVE AWAY

in Montreal.

1989 - After denving any guilt

Beats Olympic cham-

Johnson maintains innocence; IOC applauds ban

PARIS (Agencies) — No more gold medals.

No more world records. What's more, no more com-

Sprint star Ben Johnson is staring at a ban for life from track and field after he was caught as a

drug eheat for the second time. He'd already served a two year suspension after a doping scandal at the Olympics in Seoul in 1988, when he was stripped of the gold medal and a world record for a

positive test for steroids. A doping commission of track's world governing doby, the International Amateur Athletic Federation, has ruled he is guilty again. This time it was an excess of steroid related testosterone at a meet in Montreal, Jan. 17.

According to the IAAF, the only punishment is suspension for life for the 31-year-old Canadian. The disgraced former world record holder has shamed his sport a second time and should never

compete again. But the IAAF has given Johnson the chance to explain why his testosterone level was at 10.3 times the regular level. Even a 6-1 ratio is suspiciously high hut just acceptable, said Istvan Gyulai, the IAAF's general

secretary. Another IAAF source, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said it was unlikely that Johnson would appeal.

"He's finished" the source said. Meanwhile, Johnsun, main-

tained that he has not used any banned drugs since his 1988 suspension for steroids.

"Mr. Johnson stands hy his carlier statement (of Wednesday) that he has taken no prohibited substances and has engaged in no improper practices," one of Johnson's lawyers said in a statement released Friday.

Terrence O'Sullivan, one of two lawyers retained by Johnson afier a Toronto newspaper reported the sprinter had failed a drug test in January, said a further statement would be made at a news conference Sunday. He said Johnson would not attend the

news conference. The lawyer's statement also said his firm had received notification that a urine sample

allegedly taken from Mr. Johnson in Montreal January 17 has been declared positive for prohibited

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) Friday gave its support to the life ban on Johnson for drug abuse issued by the world's main athletics body.

"The 1OC is pleased to learn of the decision taken by the IAAF.

Doping is cheating and cheats have no place in the Olympic

1984 — Wins Olympic 100 bronze in Los Angeles, tirst Canadian sprinter in 20 years to collect movement," a statement issued

from IOC headquarters declared. pion Carl Lewis at 1987 World IOC sources said organisation Championships in Rome in world president Juan Antonio Samaranch and senior aides were disrecord 9.83 seconds, one tenth of appointed that Johnson should a second faster than previous repeat the offence after heing mark. stripped of a gold medal at the up wins Seoul Olympic final in an incredible 9.79 seconds. Tests positive for anabolic steroid sta-Seoul Olympics in 1988.

Track star Carl Lewis said that by getting caught for using banned drugs again, Johnson could ultimately help clean up athletics, but another American track star, edwin Moses, says it is just mother black eye for the sport.

and buman growth hormone Lewis, Johnson's bitter rival since 1981. Reported to police and the man who replaced the after aiming a starter's pistol at Canadian as 1988 Olympic 100 another motorist on an express metres champion and world record holder, is hopeful that Johnreturn to track, recording sucesson's lifetime ban will have a positive effect.

1992 — Qualifies for Barcelona Olympics but is eliminated when "I hope this discourages other athletes from using drugs." Lewis said Friday. "We have to stop

drug use in our sport." Lewis had no sympathy for his great rival.

"I'm not terribly surprised," Lewis said. "Ben had to start running better or start looking for a joh. If he used drugs I'm glad he

got caught." Former 400-metre hurdles world record holder and Olympic gold medaliist Moses said the public will be turned off by the

new cheating incident. "I've always said that any time a top name is eaught it gives the public more room for specula-

tion... is someone using drugs. 'It's definitely not good for the sport," added Moses, who has played a leading role in the development of drug testing procedures hy the U.S. Athletics Federation of drug testing procedures by the U.S. Athletics Federation and the U.S. Olympic Commit-

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANNAH HIRSCH

KEEP IT HIDDEN

Neither vulnerable. South deals. 4 J 10 5 7 10 6 5 + QJ 10 8 2 WEST EAST Q983 #K784 7843 *K82 SOUTH 9 4 3

ŶĀQJ9 ◇Q10654 ♣ĄK The hidding:
South West
2 NT Pass
Pass Pass North East 3 NT Pass

Opening lead: Three of # The prestigious Cavendish Invitational Pairs was won by two transplanted Israelis now living in New-York. Shmuel Lev. who played internationally for Israel oo many oc-casions, and Amos Kamirski. This is one of the more fascinating hands from the event.

Three no trump by South was a popular contract. At most tables West led a spade. Dummy's ten was

played and, if East inserts the king, the contract must go down with careful defense. Try it for yourself, but take our word for it. At several tables, though, East elected to with-bold the king, instead signaling

encouragement.
Declarer took advantage of being in dummy to lead a heart to the queen. At one table West, Kit Woolsey of Kensington, Calif., allowed the queen to hold. Declarer cashed the ace and king of clubs, then led the jack of hearts. Woolsey refused

the trick! Declarer could not take more than eight tricks. When Marty Scheinberg of New York declared, the first two tricks stead of revealing the club situation by unblocking the ace and king, declarer immediately cootinued the jack of bearts from hand. Not realizing declarer's predicament, West took the king and reverted to spades. Declarer won the ace, cashed the blocking club honors from hand, crossed to the table with the ten of hearts and nine tricks were in the bank-two spades, two

bearts and five clubs.

China rolls out red carpet for Olympic inspectors

BELIING (Agencies) — A children's brass band, pre-arranged crowds, flowers and miles of banners proclaiming "Beijing 2000" greeted an Olympic inspection team in the freshly-scruhbed Chinese capital Saturday.

Beijing, hoping for a thumbs-up from the International Olympic Committee for its 2000 hid, laid on an extravagant welcome for the 12 inspectors.

Their limousines — all sporting "Beijing 2000" licence plates swept in from the airport down avenues emptied of all traffic. past throngs of workers let out of factories to greet China's most important visitors in recent mem-

The world's last major communist country has spruced up its image for the occasion.

It sees the 2000 Olympics as chance to proclaim its arrival in the 21st century as a friendly economic superpower. And it is desperate to crase memories in the West that link Beijing and Tiananmen Square with the brut-al military crackdown on prodemocracy student demonstra-tors there in 1989.

"A more open China awaits 2000 Olympics," is one of the slogans daubed in bold letters all over Beijing. "Peace and prog-ress for a berter world" is another.

Workers with buckets and sponges have been swabhing down street railings. Billbnard artists have plastered the city with futuristic images of urban life. Even the white road markings have been given a fresh coat of

"We still bave cold weather," Chen Xitong, the head of China's Olympic bid committee, told Gunnar Ericsson, the Swedish delegation head, at Beijing Airport. "However all the residents of Beijing and all the Chinese people feel warm at heart." The inspectors looked sur-

prised and amused when a school band dressed in white suits with red and yellow capes struck up a raucous symphony when they stepped off the plane. We regard the International Olympic Committee as a god,

and what it says is a command to

us," Zinbna News, Agency quoted Chen as saying in an interview with a Hong Kong magazine on the eve of the visit. The inspectors bave visited Sydney — widely regarded as Beijing's leading rival - ahead of

Manchester, Istanbui, Brasilia, Milan and Berlin. A decision wili be made at an IOC meeting in Nonte Carlo September 23. The South China Morning Post in Hong Kong, where the inspectors stopped off on the way to

Beijing, Saturday quoted Erics-son as saying be did not think the Tiananmen massacre would influence the outcome.

second outside the world record. "What we are after and what Banned for life after testing posiwe are looking for is the facilities, tive for testosterone at a meeting the transport and the security. That is our main concern," he

LAST NIGHT

MY GRAMPA SAYS HE TAKES

ONE HUNDRED AND FOUR STROKES

WITH HIS RAZOR WHEN HE SHAVES

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COMEON!

I'M HOME BARLY WHAT WAS THAT FOR ?

LISTEN, BUDDY WE'RE MAIDING

CHEM DOY

World Youth Soccer Championship

Australia beat Colombia in ill-tempered opener

SYDNEY (R) - Australian captain Kevin Muscat scored a second-half winner to give the bosts a 2-1 victory over Colombia in an ill-tempered opening match of the World Youth Soccer Cham-

Australia, surprise semifinalists in the last championships in 1991. got the best possible start to the tournament when Muscar rounded off a superh move in the 23rd minote.

But the game was marred for the 31,000 crowd by niggling infringements as 10 players, seveo Colombians and three Australians, were shown the yellow card for foul play or dissent. Colombia opened the scoring against the run of play in the 35th minute when skipper Henry Zambrano caught the Australian

defenders napping, beating two of them to drive his shot into the roof The Australians, stung by the goal, struck back four minutes later when striker Ante Milicic latched on to a neat pass from Paul Agostino to cheekily chip the hall home.

The goal was a relief to Australian coach Les Scheinfing. Meanwhile, Carsten Jancker's goal in the 89th minute of play Saturday gave Germany a 1-0 over defending champion Portugal in the opening Group B match of soccer's World Youth Cham-

Striker Jancker, who plays for Cologne, picked up a ball that bounced off a Portuguese defender and hlasted it past goalkeeper Paulo Costinha.

The win helped avenge a 4-0 loss handed the Germans hy Portugal the last time the two clubs met in the European qualifying event for this tournament.

SPORTS NEWS IN BRIEF

Jordan-less Bulls fall to Spurs

CHICAGO (R) - The San Antonio Spurs trailed by as many as 21 points and never led until late in overtime but still came away with a 107-102 victory over the Michael Jordan-less Bulls in Chreago Friday. Dale Ellis finished with 29 points and David Robinson, who played all 53 minutes, added 28 points for the Spurs. Jordan missed his second game in a row due to an infected corn on his left foot but is expected to play in the Bulls' next game Tuesday against the Seattle Supersonics.

Sotomayer wins high jump meeting

CHICAGO (R) - World indoor and outdoor record holder Javier Sotomayer of Cuba won the first single-event bigh jump meeting ever in the United States Friday. Sotomayer, ranked number one in the world, bad a winning height of 2.37 metres. Sotomayer, who flew in from Cuba and arrived two hours before the event began, elected to pass four heights. He made one attempt at a new world indoor record at 2.44 metres hut missed and decided to save energy for the World Indoor Championships next week in Toronto.

Marseille casualty list piles up

MARSEILLE (R) - French champions Marseille said Friday injuries and suspension were forcing them to field a scratch side in Sunday's first round French Cup match with second division leaders Martigues. German striker Rudi Voeller and sweeper Basile Boli, who missed Wednesday's European Cup match with CSKA Moscow, are still on the casualty list and have been joined by defenders Marcel Desailly and Manuel Amoros. The versatile Jocelyn Angloma in suspended.

Continental club champions to play in Tunis

TUNIS (R) - Club Africain of Tunisia and Sao Paulo of Brazil een the C Asia and South America and Europe in Tunis in June. Club Africain became soccer champions of Africa and Asia by beating Asian title-winners Al-Hilal of Saudi Arabia. Sao Paulo won the South America-Europe crown when they defeated Barcelooa in Tokyo in December.

Delecour on course for Portuguese Rally win

ESTORIL (R) - Frenchman Francois Delecour looked set to make up for his Monte Carlo rally disappointment by winning the Portuguese round of the World Championship Saturday. Delecour held a one minute 20 seconds advantage over team mate Miki Biasion of Italy. The talented Frenchman was fastest in his Ford Escort Cosworth on the first four pre-dawn stages of the final day. Italy's Andrea Aghini came second on two of the tests in a Lancia Integrale hut remained third overall, 2:24 behind the

GRAMPA IS RETIRED.

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HE DOESN'T HAVE MUCH

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HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY MARCH 7, 1993

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Get-GENERAL TENDENCIES: Get-ting your ideas better organised for the future is aided by getting up on current events, studying philoso-phy, talking problems through with close associates and atteodiog religious services.

ARIES: (March 2t to April 19)
Your intuitions will well combine
with your best judgement now to
show you how you can best put
into motion mundane aspects of your routine duties.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) It may be necessary to take a jaunt or a journey to settle a new venture in which you have considerable interest so don't delay in doing so. GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) An expert in organisational work can now extend to you the information that can best assist you to put your worldly ambitions into executioo. MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to

ress in gaining bener arrangements with partners if you are less sensitive and approach them on their own cool ground. LEO: (July 22 to August 21) You need some more education to become aware of the various facets of

July 21) You can make much prog-

your activities by which you will be able to realise greater amounts of VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) If you want to have a good time

now make sure you go along with a

ongenial companion who is cheer ful and knows the ropes in recrea-

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Consider well the basic wishes of all who dwell beneath the same roof as yourself and let them know you will make every effort to do what pleases them.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Letting your usual associales you know what their pleasures are and aiding them to have a chance to enjoy them more makes you top of the pack.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 2t) You like the good things of life and this is the day when an opportunity is presented you to add to your present supply of them so accept and use them. CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Follow the recom-mendetion of those who savvy your wishes and can give you the right slant how by your own acumen you can bring them to yourself.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Take some time out today to study how far you have adv anced, the distance to be traversed before you have your goals and estimate the time 10 do so.

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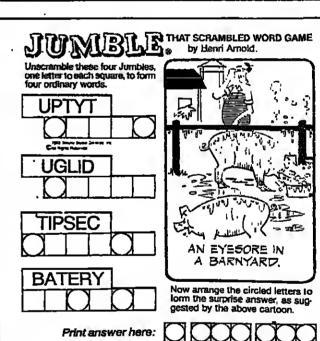
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PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Your perceptions today tell you who you can rely upon as friends and those who are merely using you so be quiet and let answers come to the surface.

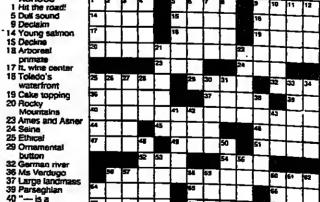


"I'm going to keep annoying you until you drop everything and write me a love letter!"



Jumbles: SNACK ICILY FROLIC RENOER Answer. The golfer had several of these-IRONS IN THE FIRE

THE Daily Crossword by Dorothy B. Martin



dangerous thing" (Pope) 44 Cookie sheet 45 Nobleman

56 Song by Bobby Darin 84 Author Bret 65 Island resort

67 Bonng tool 68 Assert 69 Suit to — 70 Luges 71 See bird

SAY, LISSEN, BUD!

IF VOLDON'TOUT

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Financial Markets

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U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Сигтевсу	New York Close Dute 4/3/93	New York Close Dute 5/3/93
Sterling Pound	1.4560	1.4460
Deutsche Mark	1.6399	1.6693
Swiss Franc	1.5201	1_5458
French Franc	5.5670	5.6555
Japanese Yen	116.80	117.62
European Curreny Unit	1.1785 **	7.1668

Surocurrency Enterest Ro			Date: 5/3	-
Currency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTH
U.S. Dollar	3.18	3.12	3.25	3.50
Sterling Pound	6.13	5.94	5.68	5.56
Deutsche Mark	8.25	7.81	7.37	6.75
Swiss Franc	5.25	4.93	4.75	4.37
French Franc	11.37	11.37	10.25	9.18
Japanese Yeu	3,37	3.21	3.12	3.09
European Currency Unit	9.12	8.87	8.75.	8.12

Precions I	Motals			Date: 5/	3/1993
Metal	USD/Oz	3D/Gm ⁺	Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm
Gold	329.65	6.35	Silver	3.59	.080

	Date: 6/3/1993		
Currency	Bid	Offer	
U.S. Dollar	0.6920	0.6940	
Sterling Pound	0.9997	1.0047	
Deutsche Mark	0.4140	0.4161	
Swiss Franc	0.4473	0.4495	
French Franc	0.1222	0-1228	
Japanese Yen"	0.5879	0.5908	
Dutch Guilder	0.3685	0.3703	
Swedish Krona	0.0894	0.0898	
Italian Lira"	0.0438	0.0440	
Belgian Franc	0.02015	0.02023	

hr 100 Other Currencies	Date	6/3/1993
Currency	Bid	Offer
Bahraini Dinar	1.8110 .	1.8260
Lebanese Lira"	0.038450	0.04150
Saudi Riyal	0.1840	0.1850
Kuwaiti Dinar	2.2220	2.2450
Qatari Riyal	0.1873	0.1886
Egyptian Pound	0.1940	0.2150
	1.7700	1.7870
Omapi Riyal	0.1873	0.1886
UAE Dirham	0.31035	0.31540
Greek Drachma**		0.14088
Cypriot Pound	0.13978	0.14080

	24/2/93 Close	3/3/93 Close
index	191.66	190.25
All-Share	134.14	132.56
Banking Sector		212.07
Insurance Sector	213.22	270.29
Industry Sector	271.37	
Services Sector	250.47	248.36

Afghans complain of banking chaos

KABUL (R) — Afghaoistan's central bank has enough money to meet the needs of depositors hut is having difficulty transporting banknotes around a country where highway rohbery is becoming commonplace, bank officials

Long queues of angry customers form daily outside the hank, in the shelf-shattered capital Kabui.

Many are government employees trying to collect their salaries and businessmen wanting to withdraw their deposits. Merchants, shopkeepers and

businessmen complain they are unable to obtain funds in Kabul after depositing their money in banks in other parts of the country for safe transfer to the capital.
"The state bank has sufficient money," one hank official has said. "But transport is difficult

because of security reasons." He declined to be named. The hanknotes most he brought from the former Soviet Union where they are printed

former invaders. Bank officials refused to com-

ment officially, sayinig the baok's president, Ghulam Mohammad Yailaq, left Kabul to attend a meetiog of the International Monetary Fund in London late last year and has not returned. They said he had settled io Bri-

Mr. Yailaq headed the central bank under the former communist government and retained the joh after the Mujahedeen took power last April. Most officials of the former government have since fled, fearing retribution by their new Islamic rulers.

Afghanistan is printing money to meet the country's needs despite the almost complete absence of government revenue, the official said.

toms, no tourists and most of the foreign embassies have evacuated their offices here io Kabul." he

"There are no taxes, no cus-

"Afghanistan has enough gold under a longstanding government and silver on which the money is

agreement with Afghanistan's printed," he explained. He declided to reveal the size of the gold reserves.

The official said the bank introduced an interest rate of 11 per cent on deposits three months ago and planned to offer the same rate for 1993.

However, he voiced concern at decrease in the oumber of depositors and said the trend was gathering speed.

Most customers waiting outside the bank had plenty of complaints.

Several honred government employees have staged noisy de-monstrations outside the presidential palace to demand payment of their salaries, delayed for

One trader from the southern city of Kandahar said he had deposited three million afghanis (\$2,250) in the bank there last November and was given cheque on which to collect the money in Kabul.

"I come every day but the answer is that there is no cash and so I haven't received my money,"

Shopkeeper Ahmad Hussain

from the northern city of Mazar-I-Sharif said he had chosen to send money to fund purchases io Kabul through the banking sys-

"Physical transport of money is impossible because there are too many dangers," he said.

The many rival Mujahedeen groups control most of the roads in Afghanistan and regularly hold up huses to roh passengers and loot those travelling by car, usually stealing the vehicle as well.

The Mujahedeen fighters, many of whom have not been paid by their commanders for months, have found easy pickings among the estimated half a million Kahul residents who have fled the city of 1.5 million to escape nearly a year of fighting.

Ahmad Hussain said he had visited the central bank daily for three weeks to try to obtain his two million afghanis (\$1,500) to restock his shop with clothes, oil and cigarettes brought to Kabul from Pakistan.

Soviet debt

MOSCOW (R) — Russia, displaying a tough new attitude to the debts. creditors and oeighhouring states, said Friday it would not pay back debts built up by the former Soviet Union until creditors had agreed a hig reschedul-

ing deal.
Deputy Prime Minister Alexander Shokhin told a news conference Russia was paying back loans offered to Moscow after the Soviet Union fell apart in December 1991, but would not repay former Soviet debt uotil the Paris Club of creditor states agreed to allow more time to pay.

"We are ready to confirm that we will pay for all Russian credit hnes - only Russian," said Mr. Shokhin, who is also Russia's chief debt negotiator. "We will wait for agreement with the Paris Cloh before we pay former Soviet Union debt."

Russia has said it cannot afford to service debts of \$80 billion built up by the former Soviet Uoion and it wants the Paris Club and the London Club of commer-

The move, which has created

two new firms and revamped a

third, will mean more competi-

tion in the industry, Chinese offi-

jor oil firms, each devoted to one

area of the busioess. But business

had begun to overlap in recent

years, especially in the lucrative

The reorganisation essentially

creates more integrated com-

panies, each able to import and

export crude oil and refined pet-

roleum products, Chinese offi-cials said in telephone interviews

JORDAN TIMES

TEL. 667171

Previously China had three ma-

cials said.

refining sector.

from Beijiog.

Russia stops paying cial bank creditors to reschedule

> But a Paris Cluh deal has stalled amid bickering between Russia and Ukraine over who should pay what. Arrears are mounting while Russia and its creditors talk about what to do.

"From a financial point of view it is not effective to make payments on dehts which will soon be rescheduled," Mr. Shokhin said,

He said asking Russia to pay too much risked sharply lower energy sales to other former Soviet republics as Moscow struggled for hard currency export earnings. A press statement, amplifying

Mr. Shokhin's comments, said high debt payments would force Russia to switch energy exports from CIS countries to Western states prepared to pay hard currency for oil and gas. "There is no need to mention

the likely grave consequences of such compulsory measure for CIS countries and for the climate in the region as a whole," it said,

president of the China National United Oil Corp. (Chinaoil) one

of the two newly-created com-

The other oewcomer to the oil

industry is China International

United Petroleum and Chemicals

Co. Ltd. (Unipec).
"Each of us can run refineries,

import and export crude and pro-

ducts io future," Mr. Zhang said.

international oil firms run up-

stream and downstream

hosinesses themselves. They

don't delegate functions to the

others. Now... there's no more

monopoly in China's petroleum

industry," he pointed oot. In the past, Sinochem, a state-

owned foreign trade company,

was the sole agent for China to

import and export crude oil and

petroleum products since the 1950s.

Sinopec, another state-run

"That's a logical change as all

Mr. Shokhin warned that failure to agree a rescheduliog deal could endanger future grain imports from the United States, placing new strains on the U.S. budget deficit and forcing Russia to seek new grain suppliers.

"Of course we are not going to withdraw completely from the U.S. market... but the longer this period of uncertainty lasts, the lower U.S. grain exports will be this year and the more the U.S. will have to pay to store grain and subsidise farmers," he poioted

Rossia, the world's higgest grain importer, has huilt up arrears of almost \$450 million on agricultural loans offered to the Soviet Union by the United

Mr. Shokhin said Russia would be looking for new farm credits from the United States, although it was not yet clear if these coold be released before a Paris Cloh rescheduling deal,

A future deal would treat all

rochemical producer.

has some refineries.

ned firm resp

eoergy user and the world's third

largest user behind the U.S. and

China has the world's fourth-

largest refining capacity and

ranks seventh in oil production.

In 1989, it became a oet product

importer and is likely to become a

net crude importer by the mid-

Kevin Costner

and Whitney Houston BODYGUARD Shows: 12:30, 3:00, 8:15, 10:30 p.m.

Free Car Parking

the former Soviet Uoion.

creditors equally, he said, admitting that Russia had favoured the United States in debt repayments it made in 1992.

We cannot make payments on American credits hot make no paymens on German or French ones," he said. "We want an agreement... hased on the equal treatment of all creditors."

Mr. Shokhin said Russia accepted it could pay \$3.5 billion to service dehts this year. But rescheduling proposals

hammered out in December during a visit to Russia hy German Chancellor Helmut Kohl would mean Russia had to pay an unacceptable \$5.1 hillio io 1993.

"Signing an agreement with conditions which we know in advance will be unacceptable will lead to its violation," the press release said.

"This will complicate (efforts) to attract new credits and will have a negative effect on western countries' exports to our vast

China breaks state oil trade monopolies 1990s as economic reforms fuel SINGAPORE (R) -+ China has - "In-the-past we separated the firm, has run 95 per cent of the rapid development. hroken up state monopolies for fuoctions by exploration, produc-refineries in China. Established

in 1983, it is China's largest pet-Chinaoil is a 50-50 joint venture of CNPC and Sinochem. It CNPC, set up in 1989, was the has registered capital of 100 milyuan (\$17.5 million). Unipec also has registered

all oil and gas exploration. It also capital of 100 million yuan and is The reforms are seen as an a 50-50 join venture between Sinopec and Sinochem. important change that will shake up the oil sector of Asia's higgest

Unipec's scope includes imports and exports of crude and products, petrochemicals and machinery as well as domestic and overseas investment in petrochemical production and trade. The changes were a major

step in the reform in our foreign trading system," a senior Unipec official said.

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CONCORD

importing and exporting crude tion and marketing and sales

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except Saturdays and Sundays

Happy Feast



Unemployment in Germany nears 3 million

its highest level since World War Office said Friday.

Unadjusted joblessness in former · West Germany rose hy 30,000 from January to 2.29 million, representing a johless rate of 8.4 per ceot. It was well up on the February 1992 figure of 1.86

million. West German unemployment is only slightly below the 2.30 million recorded in 1985, the highest annual average since the office started calculating the data in 1948.

Seasonally-adjusted unemploy-ment climbed by 40,000 to 2.10 million in February.

In eastern Germany, where the government is pumping in massive funds to sponsor temporary iob-creation schemes, unemlow ment, slipped by 10,000 to 1,18 million for a jobless rate of 15 per

the moment," Bernhard Jagoda, president of the labour office,

said in a statement. The weak economy, immigration and an unusually cold winter pushed up unemployment as well as the number of short-time workers in February, he said.

The number of short-time

BONN (R) — German unem- workers surged to 1.04 million in ployment climbed closer towards west Germany from 856,799.

Economists said the recession II in February as the country's would hoost west German economy slipped further into re- seasonally-adjusted unemploycession, the Federal Labour ment hy between 40,000 and 50,000 a month to over 2.5 million next year.

"I think it is the beginning of astructural shake-up in the labour market," said Richard Reid, chief European economiss at hrokers UBS Phillips Drew in Frankfurt. "We will see higher unemployment month after month after_month."

The government expects the west German economy to shrink up to one per cent this year, the first contraction for a decade, although many economists see a decline of two per cent.

In response to fiercer foreigo competition, many German firms are moving production to counintroducing less labour-intensive produccion methods.

Government plans not to fund "There is little reason to be any new job creation program-pleased with the labour market at mes in 1993 because of budget." strains will add to the pressure. particularly in easi Germany, where 314,500 people were under such schemes in February.

"If this (the job creating schemes) stopped overnight, you -: would add 20 to 25 per cent to unemployment in eastern Germany," Mr. Reid said.

Latvia brings in first lat banknotes "The process of rehabilitating'

MOSCOW (R) - Latvia brought in its first lat hanknotes Friday to replace the temporary Latvian rouble which ousted Russia's rou-

hle last year. Ceotral bank spokesman Edjus Vejins said the introduction of five-lat notes had passed without a hitch. The lat is the Baltic state's third monetary unit in less than a year.

"We think that the introduction of our first lat banknotes was quite successful," he said. Other denomination hanknotes would be brought into circulation within a month, he added.

country was part of the Soviet Union but was replaced by a temporary Latvian rouble last year.

One lat is worth 200 Larvian roubles or about \$1.30.

ITAR-TASS news agency quoted top Latvian officials as saying that a sharp fall in inflation and the Latvian rouble's stability against the dollar meant the time was ripe to begin introducing the

come," TASS quoted central hank head Ainars Repse as Latvian monthly inflation was less than four per cent in January, ... up from 2.6 per cent in December

the economy has started, there-

fore the time for the lat has

hut well below the 67 per cent. rate seen in January 1992. Mr. Vejins said Latvia planned to make its fledgling currency. convertible on world markets by the summer. But TASS quoted. Prime Minister Ivars Godmanis

as saying there was no need to The rouble was used when the make the currency convertible immediately. "We dropped the idea of tying our currency tightly to a hard currency because it puts too high a

> Latvia's Baltic neighbour Estonia is the only former Soviet republic which has introduced a convertible currency so far, pegging its kroon unit to the German mark.

responsibility on the economy,"

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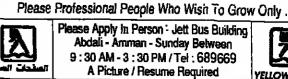
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20 to 30 are dying daily in besieged eastern Bosnia town

TUZLA, Bosnia (R) - An aid official reported from the besieged Muslim town of Srebreoica Saturday that at least 2,000 sick and wounded people were dying at the rate of 20 to 30 a day. Dr. Simon Mardel of the

World Health Organisation said in a radio broadcast to United Nations officials in Tuzla that 9.000 women and ebildren wanted to be evacuated from the settlement in the eastern Bosnian mountains and that number could

At the U.N. headquarters in New York, peace talks were in danger of adjourning this weekend without solution. Mediators were to press Bosnia's Muslim leaders to accept a key map dividing the republic into 10 semi-autonomous provinces.

Anders Levinson, from the office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees in Tuzla, said: "Dr. Mardel told us conditions were as bad as has been reported.

Dr. Mardel went to the region with General Philippe Morillon, the French commander of U.N. peacekeeping forces in Bosnia, who was trying to reach the Mus-lim settlement of Cerska about 50 kilometres north of Srebrenica.

He said that Gen. Morillon had been stopped by the last Serb checkpoint outside Cerska. A U.N. spokesman in the Bosnian capital Sarajevo said Cerska was being shelled while Gen.

S. Africa

to resume

talks on

April 5

constitution

IOHANNESBURG (R)

Leaders from across South Afri-

ca's political spectrum voted

Saturday to resume full-scale con-

stitutional negotiations within a

The 26 participants at a plan-

ning conference outside Johan-

nesburg — including the govern-

gress (ANC) and the ___atha

Freedom Party (IFP) - passed a

resolution that "the multi-party

forum should be reconvened as a

matter of national urgency not

Only the right-wing Conserva-

tive Party did not vote for the

resolution, saying it wanted to

After the vote delegates to the

two-day conference which began

Friday began debating a resolu-

tion on the violence in which

nearly 8,000 blacks have died in

In the latest bloodshed, four

The ambush was staged a few

kilometres from where six chil-

deen were massacred on their way

to school Tuesday.
Officials from 26 white and

black parties attending the two-

day planning conference in

Johannesburg expressed horror.

trying to frustrate the efforts we

are making here." ANC Secretary-General Cyril

"We are beginning to see a link... there may well be people trying to derail the talks."

weep and mourn yet again. This

is clearly a political killing, well

planned, and we think it was

Although delegates appeared

stoical in public about the kill-

ings, feelings ran deep behind the

Sue Vos, a senior Inkatha offi-

cial, accused Mr. Ramaphosa of

evnicism in calling for a minute's

silence for violence victims at

vesterday's opening session.

The ANC has the utter gall to

call for a minute's silence while

they are killing our people in

Naial. Read what you want into

Essop Pahad, a delegate of the

ANC-allied Communist Party,

angrily demanded the killers be

brought to justice and questioned

"What were the army and

the role of the security forces.

police doing when they say they

saturated the area after the Tues-

day massacre? How is it possible

for another massacre to take

bloody massacres must stop."

"Kriel must answer. These

. Law and Order Minister Her-

nus Kriel announced Friday that

three people had been arrested in

connection with the murder of

the children, three of whom were

offspring of an Inkatha official.

. Mr. Kriel told reporters Satur-

day he did not believe the killings

were directly connected with the

conference and called on Natal

leaders to "do something about

place?" be demanded.

that." she told reporters.

Frank Mdlalose, chief delegate

Ramaphosa told reporters.

of the rival Inkatha, said,

meant to scuttle the talks."

conference arena.

"It is clear certain forces are

men and six women were killed in

an ambush in Natal province Fri-

later than April 5."

reserve its position.

day evening.

ment, the Africao National

Wheo he demanded the firing stop, Gen. Morillon was told that it was in response to a Muslim

attack. Gen. Moillon headed back to Tuzla after being held up at the Serb checkpoint, a U.N. source said Saturday.

A helicopter had been sent from Gen. Morillon's Bosnian base of Kiseljak to the northern town of Tuzla to pick him op, the U.N. source in the Croatian capital Zagreb said.
"He is on his way back to Tuzla

and a helicopter has been sent from Kiseljak for him," said the source, who had been in radio contact with U.N. officers in

Dr. Mardel found 200 bedridden severely wounded people in Srebrenica which like Cerska has been blockaded by Serb forces since the Bosnian civil war began last spring.

Hundreds of people were suffering from ailments ranging from pneumonia to malnutrition.

At least 4,000 refugees from Cerska and Konjevic Polje have taken shelter in Srebrenica, a well-defended stronghold of Muslim fighters waging a guerrilla war against the Serbs.

Gen. Morillon led the mission to plan the evacuation of Muslim civilians from snowbound east

Dr. Mardel said a major obstacle would be the lack of a road Polje capable of taking the weight of UNHCR trucks which are

standing by. UNHCR officials in Belgrade said it was unlikely an evacuatioo

could begin Saturday.
Gen. Morillon decided to go to eastern Bosnia withoot seeking approval from the Serbs to check at first band on anguished amateur radio reports from the Muslim eoelaves describing rapidly deteriorating conditions.
The broadcasts said Cerska was being beavily attacked by Serb

forces apparently intent on its capture. A U.N. aid convoy boond for Zepa, another Muslim town

blockaded in eastern Bosnia was allowed to enter the region from neighbouring Serbia Saturday despite a Serb ban on movement of aid.

General Ratko Mladie, commander of the Bosnian Serb army ordered the ban Friday after shells slammed into a 16-truck convoy outside Sarajevo Airport,

injuring four people.

Gen. Mladie blamed Muslim militia for firing at the vebicles and said no further bumanitarian convoys would be allowed to travel until U.N. peacekeepers and the International Red Cross

guaranteed their safety. "All convoys in former Bosnia-Herzegovina have been postponed until further notice because their safety cannot be

guaranteed," Geo. Mladic said in a statement be read personally to

Reuters by telephone. U.N. military observers at the airport later confirmed that the mortar and machinegun attack had been launched from Muslim

Meanwhile, five U.S. Air Force cargo planes dropped 27 toones of food around the embattled Bosnian towns of Srebrenica and Konjevie and returned safely to base in Germany Saturday, the U.S. military said.

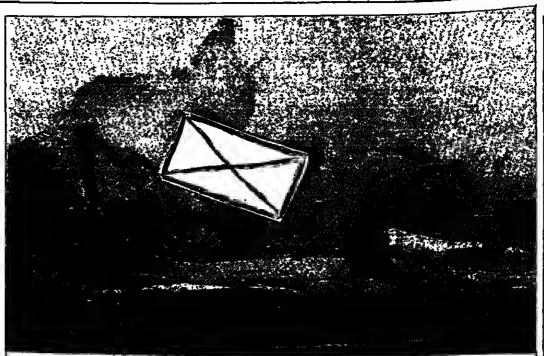
The C-130 aircraft, flying the lights-out aid run for the sixth night in a row, also dropped 0.8 tonnes of medicines around the two towns, where refugees have swollen the number of residents. "The airdrop missions were completed without incident," the

Srebrenica was selected for tonight's bumanitarian mission because the population is increasing and they have not received any truck convoy since Dec. 10.

military said in a statement.

"Koojevic was also chosen be cause of the rapidly increasing refugee popolation and our jotent to supplement wheo sufficient supplies cannot be delivered by

"We are contiouing to work closely with UNHCR (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees) to identity all areas of bumanitarian need, regardless of political affiliation.



TRACEDY IN SKOPJE: The remains of the fuselage of the Palair Macedonian Fokker-100 aircraft lies on the ground after the plane crashed just minutes after take-off from Skopje airport. At least 81 passengers from 97 aboard the plane were killed in the crash. Hospital sources in Skopje said most of the victims were killed when

the twin turbofan jet exploded and broke up after hitting the ground. They said many of the injured had severe burns and that the final death toll could rise. Most of the passengers were from Kosovo, a predominantly ethnic Albanian pro-vince of the Yugoslav Republic of Serbia, Macedo-nian officials said (AFP photo)

Yeltsin gets support from Clinton

WASHINGTON (R) - President Bill Clioton has given embattled Russian President Boris Yeltsin political and moral support in advance of their April 3-4 summit in Vancouver, Canada — and Mr. Clinton says he won't go to the summit empty-

"I'm going there to this meeting to aggressively engage the United States in the economic and political revitalisation of Russia," be told reporters Friday in announcing the site of bis first face-to-face talks with his Russian

Mr. Cliotoo said he would "try to be rather specific" in terms of what the United States is prepared to do, and "try to offer some innovative solutions to the difficulties faced by the President (Yeltsin) and the Russian peo-

Mr. Yeltsin's efforts towards reforms in Russia are under fire from conservatives and the Russian economy is going through an economic downturn worse than the depression.

The volatility of the situation in the onetime citadel of communism has been linked to the turmoil that existed before the August 1991 coup against then-Soviet Presideot Mikhail Gorbachev that propelled Mr. Yeltsio into his current position. At an impromptu news confer-

ence, Mr. Clinton called Mr. Yeltsin "a man of real courage and real commitment to democracy", and said he would discuss financial aid to Russia during the summit as well as other ways to strengthen democracy there.

"Money will be discussed," the president told reporters. "But it's not just a question of money, and it's certainly not money alone." He said he had not "put a figure" oo an aid package, but also planned to offer Mr. Yeltsin "some rather innovative things

that bave not been on the table in these discussions in the past". Mr. Clinton said their talks in Vancoover, a relaxed and picturesque city oo Canada's Pacific coast, would "not be a meet-and-greet meeting."

have talked several times since I have been in office. I am going there to try to bave a very busioess-like meeting," he said. U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher told reporters later that the new administration "in-

tends to do everything we can to

shore up the government in Russia, to give it all the aid we possibly can." Mr. Christopher said one option under consideration is what was described by the Washingtoo Post Friday as a multi-billioo dollar programme that would serve as a social safety net for Russians facing hardships due to

byperinflation and restructuring

of the economy.

"It seems to me we ought to consider a ... wide range of means to try to provide assistance to the Russian government as it goes through this transition period but as far as exactly what form it would take, I wouldn't want to comment today," Mr. Christ-

Clinton to get honorary degree from Oxford

OXFORD, England (R) — U.S. President Bill Clinton is to receive an honorary degree from Britain's Oxford University Britain's Oxford University
something refused to former Britisb Prime Minister Margaret
Thatcher. The university, where
Mr. Clinton studied as a Rhodes scholar from 1968 to 1970, said Friday it had bestowed its highest accolade on U.S. President Bill Clinton without dissent. The university's governing body, or "congregation," of 3,000 professors decided to forego a vote on Mr. Clioton's nomination for a degree by diploma, awarded only to heads of state and royalty. because it was unopposed. a spokeswoman said.

Hirohito's widow turns 90

TOKYO (AP) - Empress Dowager Nagako, the widow of Emperor H.rohito, marked her children and attendants. Palace officials said Empress Nagaku received congratulations from her son Emperor Akibito, daughter in law Empress Michiko and grandson Crown Prince Naruhito, who is to be married this spring. The empress Dowager has virtually disappeared from the public eye since the death in 1989 of Emperor Hirohito, who is now known in Japan by his posthumous name, Showa. Empress Nagako has been confined to a wheelchair for years, and her general health is frail. Little in-formation about her is released by the palace, and her near total seclusion has added to concerns about her condition. Empress Nagako married Emperor Hirohito in 1924, and bore seven children. Because the first four were girls, some court officials bad pressured Hirohito to take a concubine to eosure there would be a male heir to the throne. In 1933, bowever, she gave birth to Emperor Akihito.

Thousands await appearance of **Virgin Mary**

AGOO, Philippines (AP) — Huge crowds gathered Saturday on this northern town to wait for an apparition of the Virgin Mary as Roman Catholic officials warned the faithful to be wary of miracles. Several people, including ooe radio reporter, claimed to have seeo an apparition about 1:15 p.m. (0515 GMT) on a bill outside this tobacco growing town of 42,000 people some 120 miles (190 kilometres) north of Manila. The reporter, Mon Francisco, said over Manila radio station DZXL that a silbouette of a woman wearing a dark waistband appeared for a few seconds. Mr. Francisco said he had not expected to see the apparition and "I was not hallucinating." Reports of apparitions of the Virgin Mary are widely believed in the Philippines, where about 85 per cent of the people are Roman Catholie. From time to time. people here claim to have seen Jesus Christ, visitors from ouster space and spirits of the dead. In recent weeks, interest in the apparition spred through the main Philippine island of Luzon after a 12-year-old boy, Judiel Nieva, claimed to bave seen the Virgin Mary on the first Saturday of the month and special religious feasts since 1989. Nieva's family owns an image of Mary, which was said to have been shedding

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flesh and blood in his mouth. 2-day weekends expensive. exhausting for many Japanese

tears of blood last month. Resi-

dents of Agoo claim Nieva is a

seer and that communion turns to

TOKYO (AP) — Many Japanese are unhappy with their two day weekends, complaining of added expenses and exhaustion from going out, according to a private study. Despite a governmentbacked drive to reduce work hours, Japanese are unable to coordinate their time off very well, said Yokio Matsumoto, a researcher at the Postal Saving Promotion Society that did the study. The study, which gave no percentage of error, consisted of 100 random interviews in downtown Tokyo last October. "There's more time now, but there are still problems in other areas, such as living environment and options for play." Mr. Mat-sumoto said. Nioety-six per cent of the respondents said either they or their spouses have a two-day weekend. In recent years, major businesses have adopted a five-day workweek, and government employees started taking Saturdays off last year. But nearly three-quarters of the respondents expressed some type of dissatisfaction with their type or dissansiaction with their weekends, the most frequent being that it was too expensive and tiring, Mr. Matsumoto said.

Yeltsin wants compromise with parliament rivals

MOSCOW (R) - Russian President Boris Yeltsin pleaded Saturday for compromise in a power struggle with the conservative parliament, attempting to defuse tension which many fear could tear the country apart.

"I favour reconciliation. 1 favour an end to confrontation between the various branches of power," the Russian Information Agency (RIA) quoted Mr. Yeltsin as sayiog. Mr. Yeltsin and parliamentary

Chairman Ruslao Kbabulatov have been at loggerheads for months over who rules Russia. Both opponents and supporters of the president believe the power struggle could destabilise the country and even lead to its disintegration.

Some parliamentarians say the situation is more worrying than at any time since the failed August 1991 coup against then Soviet

leader Mikhail Gorbachev. The coup was put down after three days by forces loyal to Mr. Yeltsin. Its failure led to the break-up of the Soviet Union.

"The situation in the country now strongly resembled the one in which the Supreme Soviet (parliament) of the Soviet Union was disbanded," conservative deputy Vyacheslav Lyubimov told parliament Friday.

But Defence Minister Pavel Grachev vowed the armed forces would stay neutral in the power struggle between Mr. Yeltsin and Mr. Khasbulatov.

"The army... will abide by the constitution. It will not participate in political games - that would be dangerous." Mr. Grachev told the government dai-

ly newspaper Rossiiskiye Vesti. The minister banned all troop movements and military exercises in the Moscow district during a special session of the Congress of People's Deputies to avoid stok-

rules drawn up in the old Soviet Union, is Russia's supreme legisl-Parliament had decided Friday to call a special session of the Congress for next. Wednesday to

The Congress, elected under

discuss the issoe. Legislators rejected a Yeltsin proposal to share But speaking to business leaders Saturday, Mr. Yeltsin played down parliament's decision.

"I am sorry parliament failed to support my proposals. I am not discourage and will look for new options," Interfax News Agency quoted bim as saying.

Mr. Yeltsin had proposed a "constitutional deal" by which the president and parliament would each give up some powers to give the government a free hand to forge ahead with economic reforms.

He has said if parliament rejects his proposals we will go ahead next month with a referendum designed to ask who should rule Russia, parliament or the

Earlier this week, Mr. Yeltsin warned parliament be might resort to a "final option" to end the power struggle should the referendum be abandoned — a clear hiot be was considering the introduction of some form of

emergency rule. But on Saturday the president indicated be might abandon the referendum instead.

"If parliament does not agree to a referendum or a constitutional deal, I will look for other roads to harmony," RIA quoted Mr.

Yeltsin as saying.

He suggested Congress should adopt a "law on power" defining the authorities of president and parliament precisely. There is no clear division of powers in the present constitution.

Diana ends visit to Nepal

KATHMANDU (R) — Britaio's Princess Diana Saturday ended a five-day visit to Nepal, where she practised ber new solo role as comforter of the sick and downtrodden.

On ber first trip abroad since separatiog from Prince Charles, Princess Diana held hands with lepers, cuddled emaciated Nepali children, and spoke with their mothers about health care and family plaoning.
"I hope that my work here will

encourage more people to join' in," Princess Diana, the mother of two young princes, told reporters before flying home to Lon-

Wearing, a blue dress with satin collar and cuffs, Princess Diana was seen off at Kathmandu's airport by Nepal's Crown Prince Dipendra and Prime Minister Girija Prasad Koirala.

She was accompanied on the tour, meant to poblicise British aid projects in one of the world's 10 poorest countries, by British Mioister For Overseas Development Lynda Chalker.

The princess did not appear distracted during her visit to the Himalayan kiogdom by the airiog on an Australian television station Monday of tapes of a conversation suggesting a very close relationship with a male friend.

On the tapes, a woman's voice sounding like Princess Diana's expresses a fear of getting pre-gnant. Buckingham Palace has declined to commeot.

The princess, an admirer of Nobel Peace Prize wioner Mother Teresa, arrived in Nepal Tuesday on a visit clearly meant to demonstrate that she is not just a character in a royal soap opera.

Italian opposition parties fire opening shots in morals debate

ROME (R) — Italian opposition parties, in the shots of a parliamentary debate on political morality, cried foul Saturday over government plans to defuse the country's widening bribery scan-

"The interests of corrupt political parties bave triumphed over those of the people who want justice," said Northern League member of parliament (MP) Marco Formentino.

L'Indipendente newspaper caled a package unveiled by Prime Minister Guiliano Amato's cabinet Friday "a cop-out" while the anti-mafia party La Rete vowed to walk out of parliament

justice is obstructed. The issue looks set to play a major part in Tuesday's debate on political morals in which opposition parties led by the ex-Communists of the PDS plan an all-out onslaught on the govern-

"The battle now will be in

parliament," commeoted the ing funds for pobtical parties a PDS oewspaper L' Unita.

The government Friday approved a series of measures aimed at staunching the flow of the country's political and business leaders into jail as the bribery scandal gathers pace.

The central plank of the so-called "political solution" to the crisis is a decree which will change the law on political party funding, around which much of the scandal revolves.

Many of the scores of politicians caught taking bribes from businessman io exchange for public works contracts have claimed the money was destined solely for

Independent analysts agree Italy's restrictive and outdated party funding laws are unrealistcally harsh ou the country's parties. Trade unions, for example, can receive much more.

Now the aim is to make accept-

much less serious crime, no longer punishable by jail. Those convicted, however, will

have to repay three times the amount of the bribe and leave publie or business life for two to five years. The decree comes into force

immediately, although it will lapse if parliament does oot approve it withio 60 days. The more serious offences of corruption, embezzlemeot and

receiving, with which many suspects are charged, will not be affected by the package.
"It is not a cop-out," said Mr.

Amato in an interview published by La Stampa oewspaper Saturday. "What would have been a cop-out woold have been had these trials dragging on for ten years with no result. "Our proposals take immedi-

ate effect - which is what both the people and the investigating

Angola president rejects

U.N. truce call and appealed for an arms embargo to be lifted so he can fight a renewed outburst of his country's vicious civil war. interview with Reuters Friday. also said he backs U.N. peace

ing U.N. peacekeepers to try to restore order in the southern that there should be an agreement between the two sides on a ceasefire and that there should be

for the ceasefire," he said. "Maybe we can discuss with the United Nations how they can send a peacekeeping force to

added. ernment and Jonas Savimbi's UNITA rebel movement collapsed last week when UNITA failed to send a delegation to a second round of U.N.-sponsored negotiations in the Ethiopian

capital Addis Ababa Mr. Dos Santos said be was still committeed to a negotiated settlement and would consider giv-

the United Nations special representative to Angola, Margaret Anstee, that both sides should declare an immediate truce.

"How can we accept that UN-ITA will react favourably to this proposal of a truce when it didn't even bother to go to Addis Aba-

realistic at the moment."

an ioternatiooal arms embargo on the government and UNITA. writteo into a collapsed 1991

"We think that this clause must be abolished because we have now a legitimate government

elected by our people," he said. remain in effect against UNITA and appealed for other forms of internacional pressure, incloding freezing UNITA assets and closing its offices abroad.
The presideot repeated charges

that South African private interests were continuing to supply UNITA by air with the complicity of the government in Pretoria.

but it hurts to think of those still inside," said Rev. Moon after beiog greeted joyfully by suppor-

> Andong in soutbeastero Kyongsangbuk-Do province. flowers from friends.

Rev. Moon's remaioing fouryear sentence was cut in half in a Christmas 1992 amoesty authorised by ex-President Roh Tae-Woo, which also freed student Im Su-Kyong, known as the "flower of onification."

ing Pyongyang, an action which contravened strict internal secur-Seveo students jailed in 1991

dragging bim around a Seoul college campus, were also released. President Kim, himself a for-

'Today's amnesty is not a cus-

birth of a cew admioistration but is meant as an appeal to let us all start over to build a new Korea," Despite the breadth of the

did not go far enough. Some said as many as 1,000 people arrested for violating draconian security laws remain behind bars.

could grant legiency to all ... but I could not consider unconditional releases," Mr. Kim said. One of the nation's leading aoti-government coalitions.

"Kim Young-Sam's amnesty is merely decorative and bas no real significance," a Minkahyop state-

Meanwhile, Mr. Kim ordered an investigation Saturday into reports that newly-appointed Health Minister Park Yang-Sil was guilty of performiog illegal abortions and illicit land specula-

It was the third time in a week that Mr. Kim, who has pledged to run a clean administration and rid the country of rampant corruption and elitism, has been embarrassed into iovestigating the past of key appointees to his team.

and last January. She did not appear in court on the charges. In general, abortion in South Korea is illegal but the practice is widespread

Dr. Park is also alleged to have illegally bought property worth millions of dollars under ber own and her children's names.

iovestigation into the news reports. But reports saying she would be sacked are not true," a government official said. He said in aonouncement was likely Monday.

avoid a ban on urban dwellers buying farmland unless they register in a rural area for at least six months. He returned to Seoul The health minister admitted owning the properties in question

She said her property assets were worth about six billion won (\$7.5 million) and that she had

S. Korea frees thousands in sweeping amnesty

SEOUL (R) — President Kim Young-Sam, anxious to end South Korea's history of political repression, granted amnesty Saturday to more than 40,000 dissidents or prisoners.

"(The amnesty) is intended to lift completely the fog that has perpetually obscured our society over the past three decades," said Mr. Kim, who took office last week to become the first head of state since 1961 with no military background. "It is intended to close a dark

chapter of Korean bistory so that the country, no longer stuck in the past, will be able to move forward to create a new Korea, he said after a special cabinet meeting approved the amnesty. More than 2,100 prisooers were released from jail Saturday,

while more than 30,000 others were freed from restrictions on their civil liberties, such as the right to vote or to practise their profession The remainder of those benefitiog from the nation's most

sweeping amnesty have had their

jail terms reduced. Among those freed is South Korea's best-known political detainee, Mooo Ik-Hwan, a Presbyterian minister jailed for seven years in 1989 for visiting Commuoist North Korea without government permission.

"I feel good to be a free man

amnesty, dissident groups said it

"I will cootinue to fight for democracy and unification of South and North Korea," be said after emerging in traditional Korean costume to be deluged with

In, 24, was also jailed for visit-

mer dissideot and long-term opposition leader, has pledged to allow democracy to take root during bis single five-year term after decades of military-backed

tomary measure to celebrate the

"Although this amnesty is onprecedeoted in our history, some people were left out. I wish I

Minkahyop, estimates that 400 dissidents are still in iail.

ment said

News reports aid Dr. Park, a 68-year-old obstetrician, was booked by prosecutors for per-

ber son move to an agricultural

after four months. but said no illegal activities were involved. "I made oo profit at all on the transactioo," Yoohap domestie oews agency qoted her

debts of about 2.5 billion won (\$3.15 million).

President Kim.

truce, wants more arms LUANDA (R) — Angola's ing Mr. Savimbi a government embattled President Jose Eduarpost as part of an eventual peace

do Dos Santos has rejected a But Mr. Dos Santos, in an efforts and would consider allow-

"The most important thing is mechanisms to guarantee respect

Angola and what kind of mandate this force should have." he Peace talks between the gov-

But he rejected a proposal by

ba?" he said. "It doesn't seem to us that this is a very apt proposal or that it is

Mr. Dos Santos appealed for peace agreement, to be scrapped.

But be said the embargo should

ters who waited for bours outside the gates of a jail in the town of

for assaulting former Primer Minister Chung Won-Shik, coating bim with eggs and flour and

forming illegal abortions in 1969

"The president has ordered an

Newspapers said Dr. Park bad district outside Seoul io 1986 to

as saving.

Dr. Park told Yoobap she would not resign unless asked by